

HAKOL

The Voice of Hewlett–East Rockaway Jewish Centre/Congregation Etz Chaim

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HERJC Stands in Solidarity with Israel

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION
INFORMATION ON
PAGES 8 AND 9





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Notes from the Hazzan



HAZZAN BONNIE ZAKARIN

Light

The Chanukiah (Menorah), a cherished symbol in Jewish culture and tradition, holds a profound significance that extends far beyond its religious roots. This elegant candelabrum, with its nine branches, plays a vital role in celebrating Chanukah, our Festival of Lights. Yet, its symbolism goes deeper, offering a powerful message that transcends religious boundaries.

The connection between the lights of the Chanukiah and their ability to help us see light in the darkness of the world around us is a universal and timeless lesson. It serves as a beacon of hope and a reminder that, even in the most challenging circumstances, there is always a glimmer of light that can guide us out of the abyss.

1. Finding Hope in Adversity: Life often confronts us with hardships and challenges that can seem insurmountable. In these trying times, the Chanukiah reminds us that hope exists even in the darkest hours. The first candle lit on Chanukah, known as the “shamash,” is used to kindle the other candles, symbolizing how a single source of light can inspire and ignite hope in others.

2. Spreading Love and Unity: In a world that can sometimes feel divisive and hostile, the Chanukiah encourages us to kindle the flames of love, compassion, and unity. It reminds us to focus on the light within us and share it with others, no matter their background or beliefs.

3. Celebrating Diversity: The Chanukiah’s multiple branches, each holding its own flame, represent the diversity of human experience and belief. It is a powerful reminder that our world is enriched by its differences, and we should celebrate the many unique perspectives that make up our global community.

4. Resilience and Perseverance: The Chanukah story reflects the idea that even when resources seem limited, our determination and resilience can help us overcome adversity. By keeping the flames burning, the Chanukiah encourages us to persevere, even when it seems the odds are against us.

In a world that often seems engulfed in darkness, the Chanukiah’s message is timeless and powerful. It reminds us that, no matter how challenging our circumstances may be, there is always a glimmer of light within us and around us, ready to illuminate our path. As we celebrate Chanukah together, let us embrace the message of the Chanukiah, using it as a source of inspiration to find and spread light in the darkness that surrounds us.

Am Yisrael Chai, Hazzan Zakarin



From the Rabbi



RABBI MICHEL SCHLESINGER

Darkness and Light

According to scholars, the festivals of lights in different religions originated in pagan rituals of lighting fires to confront the darkness that takes over the northern hemisphere at this time of the year. When the days become short and the nights long, the winter solstice occurs. The ancients associated the long nights with a punishment from the gods and were afraid of death. To face this fear, they lit torches

that brought them some relief.

Over time, different religions incorporated festivals of lights at the peak of winter and associated symbols of their religious traditions with this celebration. In our case, the symbol of the victory of the Maccabees and the miracle of the oil that lasted eight days became the leitmotif of Chanukah. On Christmas, there is a tradition of lighting candles and hanging them on Christmas trees. In addition, this is a holiday when many Christian houses and churches remain illuminated all night.

Even though Christmas and Chanukah may have a common origin, I believe it's important for them to remain distinct celebrations. I don't support the idea of blending all festivals as if they were one thing. I think this kind of initiative diminishes the beauty of the historical evolution each of these festivals has undergone. Syncretism that erases boundaries between different traditions, in my view, impoverishes the complex and profound experience of different rituals. I believe Christians should celebrate Christmas, and Jews should celebrate Hanukkah.

At the same time, the awareness that both festivals originate in human fragility in the face of the unknown should make us sensitive to respecting each other's rituals. I don't believe there's a correct or incorrect way to face the fear of darkness, but there is a Jewish way. This understanding of other religions, I believe, should be carried into the challenge of intra-religious dialogue.

Just as during the time of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, there were different Jewish groups like the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Essenes, (and within the Pharisees, there were

the schools of Shammai and Hillel), we need to find a way to coexist despite our differences and perhaps because of them. Differences challenge us to reflect, confront, grow, deepen, debate, and evolve.

Sometimes, I imagine God listening to a discussion about whether women should sit upstairs in the synagogue or at the back, how many centimeters of space should separate men

and women, or whether they can sit together. I truly believe that for God, it doesn't matter how or where we sit as long as the ritual is meaningful and leads us to do what is truly important—to help humanity face its fragility and vulnerability and live happily.

Happy Chanukah to you and your family.

“... the symbol of the victory of the Maccabees and the miracle of the oil that lasted eight days became the leitmotif of Chanukah.

HAKOL

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HERJC Mission Statement

Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Centre—Congregation Etz Chaim (HERJC) is a warm, vibrant, traditional-egalitarian Conservative congregation. Our diverse, forward-thinking community is one in which learning, prayer and social action flourish.

Since its founding in 1949, HERJC has been recognized for creating a welcoming environment in which each member – Regardless of age, stage of life or background—feels a connection to one another, to the Jewish people, to the United States, to the land and State of Israel, to Judaism, and to God.

We are committed to continuing to provide innovative, interesting and thought-provoking programs that:

- Foster lifelong learning from pre-school through adulthood
- Celebrate our Jewish heritage
- Deepen the sense of community among our Congregational family
- Promote religious involvement of all members, and enhance their spiritual experience
- Encourage intergenerational cooperation
- Nurture the State of Israel and our relationship with it
- Serve the needs of our members, the local community, the United States, and K'lal Yisrael, the Jewish people, throughout the world.

Pirkei Avot says the world rests on Torah, Avodah, and G'milut Chasadim. So too does our Congregation.

From the Executive Director



LISA STEIN

The Light that Guides Us

Chanukah is coming! We are so excited to have a plethora of opportunities this year so that the congregation can come together to celebrate the Festival of Lights. This year we will all be looking for ways to celebrate the light. In addition to our annual Chanukah Brunch, where we will offer a special welcome to our new members, we are also excited about our new outdoor Giant Menorah which is under construction. We will light on the first night with a fire truck in attendance to help distribute gelt and more! And we can all look forward to 'Lots of Latkes,' where congregants will have a chance to show off their best latkes! During challenging times, we often find added inspiration from our community and it is beyond wonderful that HERJC is that special *kehillah* (community).

I cannot express enough my appreciation for the amazing people that make up this community. The number of people who have reached out knowing that my daughter,

“During challenging times, we often find added inspiration from our community and it is beyond wonderful that HERJC is that special *kehillah*.

Gabriella, is spending a GAP year in Israel this year has been a tremendous comfort to me. As parents we know, our children are always in our thoughts. For me, as I am trying to also focus my thoughts on all of these terrific upcoming programs, I am reminded of how special Chanukah is in Israel. Just a few days ago, I was looking forward to being in Eretz Yisrael, arriving a day after the end of the holiday. While I do not know if I will be lucky enough to get to Israel this year, I do know that our children provide a light that guides us. As not just a parent, but someone who has spent most of my career in synagogue life, I love watching the children anticipate the holiday and then enjoy the sufganiyot, the sense of accomplishment when they recite the blessings, and the joy of being together as a family. I know this year will be no different in that regard. It is incumbent upon us to make sure that our children continue to shed that light. While Gabriella is not having the program or experience she expected, she is already shedding light, seen here volunteering on Kibbutz Ketura, picking and packing dates while many of the members of the kibbutz have been called up on miluim reserve duty. I wish all of us a light-filled Chanukah and I look forward to lighting the candles with you here at HERJC!

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Gabriella Stein

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPENDING ANOTHER HOLIDAY SEASON WITH YOU!



From the President



STEPHEN MOELIS

The Steps We Take

When I decided to serve as HERJC's President two years ago, I told the Executive Committee I would prefer not to sit on the *bima* during the High Holidays. Over the years, as a member of the Honors Committee, my role during the High Holidays has been to find congregants who have accepted honors. This has often led to frequent conjecture: How many steps, in fact, do I take throughout each day of Rosh

Hashanah and on Yom Kippur?

My reason for not wanting to sit on the *bima* and, instead, continuing to serve as a High Holiday "runner" is tied to my own connection to the High Holidays. Growing up, my family and I would arrive at the start of services and leave at the end. As a child and then as a young adult, my brother, sisters, and I would remain in our seats with only *Yizkor* to break up the seemingly endless service. 9:30 am to 2:30 pm or later was the norm, not the exception.

After being a member at HERJC for a few years, I was privileged to be part of our synagogue's Torah-writing project, *Mitzvah 613*, where I shared letter-writing experiences with over 375 HERJC families. The collective experience sharing a unique form of a deeply felt religious practice with fellow members led me to reach out to Norman Doctor and offer my assistance on the High Holidays. I have not regretted my decision.

On the High Holidays, I rarely, if ever, sit to engage in prayer with God. Instead, I search, find, speak, and walk with congregants, employees, extended family, or volunteers. Throughout the year, a President congratulates congregants on the birth of a child or grandchild, expresses sympathy for the loss of a loved one, and recognizes the professional or personal achievements of congregants. On the High Holidays, I get to add my own personal touch so that our members know that my letters to them were not perfunctory. The number of steps I take may be subject to amused speculation, but they (hopefully) achieve my goal of forging a direct connection to fellow members. Despite sore feet, I have the best seat in the sanctuary on the High Holidays.

So, I encourage you to ask yourself, "What are the steps I can take to be more a part of the HERJC community?" Each year, our synagogue engages in a wide and expanding range of ritual, social, educational, and volunteer activities. Our Shabbat services, Chanukah celebration, and Passover 2nd Seder offer spiritual bridges. Our Progressive Dinner, monthly communal Kabbalat Shabbat meals, and Ruach events afford each of us a chance to meet and talk with fellow members. Rabbi's Talmud class, Hazzan's *tefillah* program, and guest speakers help us learn more than we knew yesterday. And working in the Mitzvah Garden, joining Sisterhood, or volunteering to serve on a committee enable you to give back to our community. You are neither limited in how you engage nor asked to do so in a singular way.

Finding your own niche to express your connection to HERJC is only a telephone call away. The number of steps you take after that is your decision.

“So, I encourage you to ask yourself, “What are the steps I can take to be more a part of the HERJC community?” Each year, our synagogue engages in a wide and expanding range of ritual, social, educational, and volunteer activities.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SHABBAT

Friday night, 6:00 pm

In person

Saturday morning, 9:30 am

In person and Zoom

MORNING MINYAN

Monday, Thursday,
and Rosh Chodesh, 8:00 am

In person and Zoom

Tuesday, Wednesday,

and Friday, 8:00 am

Check calendar for in

person and Zoom days

Sunday, 9:00 am

Zoom ONLY

EVENING MINYAN

Sunday-Thursday, 7:30 pm

Zoom ONLY

Call-in for all Serices:

+1 929 205 6099 US (NY)

Meeting ID: 834 2299 4395

Passcode: 5235888

Follow



@herjcny



HERJC



HERJC Nursery School



Mazal Tov to Our B'nai Mitzvah

HANNAH KLONSKY

November 11, 2023

Mazal Tov to Robin and Aryeh Klonsky on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Hannah.

Hannah has interests in music, dancing, swimming, art and animals. She is a member of the National Junior Honor Society and has participated in NYSSMA for cello.

She has volunteered at the HERJC Purim Carnival for several years and plans on continuing her Jewish education by attending Shabbat and holiday services.



ZOE RECHTWEG

November 18, 2023

Mazal Tov to Erica and David Rechtweg on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Zoe.

Zoe enjoys soccer and lacrosse, as well as playing the saxophone and piano. She looks forward to sleepaway camp every year.

She is eager to continue volunteering at Arts Below Sunrise and has some exciting ideas for a Mitzvah project which she looks forward to sharing!

Zoe has one sibling, Ari (15).



Getting to know our new members . . .

Stephanie and Daniel Palmadesso

Stephanie and Daniel Palmadesso have lived in Hewlett Harbor since December 2020, having previously lived in Valley Stream for several years. Dan is originally from East Northport and attended most High Holiday



Services at the Astoria Center of Israel where his grandparents were devoted long-term members. Stephanie is from Hollis Hills, Queens and has fond memories of Purim Carnivals and USY at the Hollis Hills Jewish Center. Dan is Assistant General Counsel at B. Riley Financial and Stephanie is Senior

Director of Labor Relations for New York City Correctional Health Services. They have two children, Arielle (7) who is a second grader at Waverly Park and Jacob (5) who attends Kindergarten at the Lynbrook Kindergarten Center. Stephanie and Daniel enjoy hiking, running, and traveling together. They are most excited to be a part of HERJC so they can instill a love of Jewish identity in their children, as well as learning more about Judaism themselves.

YEAR-ROUND FOOD COLLECTION



Please continue to bring kosher non-perishable food items to the Synagogue. We deliver regularly to a food pantry. The need is great, so please help us to fight hunger.

SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE
**ANNUAL
HERJC GALA**
SATURDAY
MARCH 2, 2024



RABBI SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS FROM OUR KABBALAT SHABBAT SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL SERVICE: A HOLIDAY YET TO BE CELEBRATED

October 13, 2023

Simchat Torah is the holiday during which we read the last verses from the Torah and immediately restart the reading from Bereshit. However, this last Simchat Torah was different—we read the last verses but are yet to restart reading the book. Our ritual cycle was brutally interrupted, our human cycle violently suspended. How can we talk about Bereshit when our brothers and sisters are still hostages of evil? How can we speak about a new beginning while we still bleed from the criminal consequences of last week's cowardly attacks? The recent assaults in Israel created a vacuum, a twilight zone, a valley of shadow, and abruptly interrupted our rituals, our lives.

Hewlett East Rockaway Jewish Centre stands with Israel. We are very united, and so is the Jewish community in the US and worldwide, as are all the people who believe in democracy and peace. The horror that terrorists of Hamas want to impose on Israel is not only an Israeli or Jewish issue. The free democratic world is deeply concerned with the situation and is showing unlimited support to Israel. In a moment like this, there is no right or left, no religious or secular, no Israel or diaspora, and no Jew or non-Jew. Every man and woman who believes in human rights, dignity, and democracy is united in unwavering support for Israel.

This is a Shabbat to show solidarity with Israel. It is also an opportunity for us to strengthen one another during these horrifying days. I urge you to be in contact with everyone you know who lives in Israel. I ask you to contact every friend outside of Israel who has family in Israel. Finally, I encourage you to be in touch with one another because it means the world in a moment like this.

I would like to take a moment to thank Aleta and Ariel Grunberg for generously covering the costs of tonight's event. I would also like to express my appreciation for the donations we've received from our

congregants, both for Israel and for tonight's event. Finally, I want to extend my gratitude to HERJC's professional team, who work wholeheartedly to ensure the success of our activities, even when our minds are inevitably elsewhere.

In Bereshit, we learn that God has created order from chaos. Unfortunately, we are still living in chaos. We are in this twilight zone between the end of the Torah cycle, and we couldn't start it anew. Nevertheless, we hope and pray that we will be able to celebrate calm again. We hope and pray that Shalom will prevail over hate, and very soon, we will be able to celebrate the belated Simchat Torah and finally read Bereshit, the Beginning, a new Beginning.

Shabbat Shalom



**Thank you to all who contributed to our Israel relief efforts!
We are proud to have given a check to JNF for \$6,000.**

Organizations you can donate to:

- Contribute to UJA Federation's Emergency Fund (www.ujafedny.org/israel-emergency-fund)
- National Council of Jewish Women is collecting emergency funds (www.ncjw.org/act/action/israelemergency)
- JNF collection (www.jnf.org)
- AFMDA (American Friends of Magen David Adom) collection (www.afmda.org)



Chanukah

NIGHTLY BLESSINGS

Baruch ata Adonai, Elohaynu Melech Haolam,
asher kidshanu b'mitsvotav, v'tsivanu,
l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו
במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

We praise You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has sanctified us with Your Mitzvot and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

Baruch ata Adonai, Elohaynu Melech Haolam,
she-asa nisim la-a-vo-tenu, ba-yamim,
ha-hem bazman ha-zeh.

ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם, שעשה נסים
לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

We praise You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

TO BE ADDED ON THE FIRST NIGHT AFTER THE OTHER 2 BLESSINGS

Baruch ata Adonai, Elohaynu
Melech Haolam, she-he-che-yanu
v'ki-y'manu, v'higianu lazman ha-zeh.

ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקיימנו
והגיענו לזמן הזה.

We praise You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has given us life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this season.

Chanukah Treats

Stained Glass Chanukah Cookies

From Kosher.com

Ingredients

1/4 teaspoon baking powder	1-1/2 cups all purpose flour
1/2 cup softened butter	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup crushed hard candy	3/4 cup sugar
1 large egg	1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions

1. Using a mixer, cream together butter and sugar until fluffy. Add egg and vanilla extract. In a separate bowl, stir together flour, baking powder, and salt.
2. Gradually add dry ingredients to the butter, and cream the mixture. Wrap tightly with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least an hour.
3. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. On a lightly-floured surface, roll out batter about 1/4 inch thick.
4. Use cookie cutters to cut out shapes. Cut a small circle in the middle of each shape with a butter knife or smaller cookie cutter.
5. Place shapes on a Parchment-lined baking sheet and bake for five minutes.
6. Remove the baking sheet, and carefully spoon 1/2 teaspoon of crushed hard candy into the center of each.
7. Bake for four to five more minutes, or until the candy has melted completely.
8. Cool, first for 15 minutes on baking sheet, then move to cooling rack.



A fun and colorful Chanukah cookie activity with beautiful results.

Mini Cheerio Donuts

From Kosher.com

These fun Chanukah treats can be made with any frosting and any sprinkles.

Ingredients

Cheerios, frosting, sprinkles

Ingredients

Melt chocolate, dip the cheerios in the chocolate and then add the sprinkles!



Watch this fun mini Cheerio donut video!



"Light up the Night" Community Chanukah at HERJC

■ **Thursday, December 7, 7:00 pm**

Join us as we light the first candle on our special giant menorah! There will be a fire truck with treats, sufganiyot, and more!

Chanukah Brunch Party

■ **Sunday, December 10, 11:00 am**

Our warm, inviting, intergenerational Chanukah Brunch honors our newest members. Celebrate the festival of lights, dairy brunch and candle lighting.

East Rockaway Village Hall Menorah Lighting

■ **Tuesday, December 12, 6:00 pm**

Early Childhood Center Chanukah Party

■ **Wednesday, December 13, 5:30 pm**

Lots of Latkes Contest

■ **Thursday, December 14, 6:30 pm**

Get ready to bring your best latke! We will have a dreidel contest, sufganiyot, and more!

DID YOU KNOW?



Chanukah has been celebrated in space!
In 1993, while aboard the space shuttle "Endeavor," astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman brought a menorah and a dreidel, which he played on a televised broadcast in celebration of Chanukah.

DID YOU KNOW?



The United States is home to the world's largest menorah.
The biggest menorah in the world was built and lit in NYC at the corner of 5th Avenue and 59th Street for Chanukah in 2017. It stood 36 feet tall and weighed 2 tons!

DID YOU KNOW?



The earliest instance of Chanukah at the White House was 1951.
In 1951, Israeli Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion presented President Harry Truman with a menorah, marking the first instance of Chanukah at the White House.

Newlett-East Rockaway Jewish Centre

ETZ CHAIM

ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

5783

ENSURING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER.

Together we can fill the tree with leaves. Each leaf represents a generous donor and each donation to the HERJC Etz Chaim Endowment Fund helps to secure the future of our synagogue and Jewish education for years to come. Help us to achieve our goal of \$2,000,000.

\$2,000,000

\$1,000,000

\$900,000

\$843,350

\$800,000

\$700,000

\$600,000

\$500,000



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

To make a donation or for more information please contact Stephen Moelis, President of HERJC at smoelis.lastrada@gmail.com or Rabbi Michel Schlesinger at rabbi@herjc.org.



Scan to access the
Endowment Form



**Making
Connections**
Hewlett-East Rockaway
Jewish Centre



Patrons Society



It is fitting that HERJC's largest annual fundraising apparatus is named after Harry Kassel (z'l). A man of integrity, perseverance, honesty, and devotion to our community, Harry represented the highest level of pure goodness within our synagogue. This year, the HERJC community responded to the rebranding of The Harry Kassel Patrons Society through an increase in the number of participants (14 new in all), higher levels of giving (over 22% more than in 2021/2022), and the creation of a new category for young families with children in our schools (Olim) to create the next generation of donors at HERJC. We acknowledge those who participated as Patrons, thank them for their continued support of this vital source of resources to sustain HERJC's operational structure and programming, and hope their generosity will inspire others in our community to join the ranks of HERJC's valued donor families. As Harry used to say, "you create something and it turns into something greater with the next generation." Yasher Koach to our esteemed Patrons.

KETER TORAH

Lisa & Edmund Cohen
Marilyn & Stanley Cohen
Stephanie & Steven Kaufman
Joan Laufer

DOUBLE CHAI

Pamela & Daniel Gerstman
Terri & Steven Gold
Aleta & Ariel Grunberg
Robin & Mark Hoorwitz
Iris & Alan Jacobs
Laurie & Asher Platt
Nora & Jack Skiba

CHAI

Leslie & Jonathan Altus
Arnelle & Brian Blinderman
Laurie & Joseph Brofsky
Marcia & Marc Goldberg
Jody & Richard Grobman
Lisa & Lev Herrnsen
Steven Kandel
Lois & Marc Kemp

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Joshua Waitt; & Xander Winter
Margo & Jason Melzer
Rebecca & Kenny Osder
Hazzan Bonnie & Moshe Zakarin



DO YOU HAVE A COLLEGE STUDENT?

Help us stay connected to your children. Fill out the form using the QR so we can send them some treats!



Sisterhood



BEVERLY WACHTEL

Sisterhood is continuing to weave our theme of “responsibility” into our fall and winter activities.

We start the fall season with our annual coat drive. This is an easy way to take responsibility for helping those in need. We hope you've already put aside

the gently used coats and warm accessories that you no longer use so they can help to keep someone else warm this winter. Simply drop off your donations of warm outer clothing on Sunday, November 5th between 9:00 am to 12 noon or on Monday, November 6th between 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Our volunteers will be there to receive your donations. Don't forget that our Stock the Shelves collection continues throughout the year, so be sure to bring in food and personal hygiene products to be donated to the needy.

Sisterhood's membership event will take place on Wednesday, November 8 at 8:00 pm in the HERJC reception area. For this event our Sisterhood members will focus on feeling good about themselves so that we can better take on the responsibility of taking care of others. We will have a makeup demonstration featuring makeup for different ages presented by Get Dunn Up. Join us to visit with Sisterhood friends and learn helpful makeup tips.

Our next major event is American-Israel Night on Tuesday, November 28 at 6:45 pm. The plan had been for American-Israeli comedian Joel Chasnoff to engage us with conversation and laughs about all things Israel, based on his new book, *Israel 201*. Joel still wants to come to New York from Israel for our event but, in light of the war in Israel, the event will now feature conversation about and solidarity with Israel. Our Sisterhood took responsibility for planning this event with other Sisterhoods to bring big-name entertainment to our community for an event that each of us individually could not have offered. This Joint Sisterhood Event is open to all members of our six congregations, not just women. (See the box for the listing

of the participating synagogues.) The event is free for members of our Sisterhoods and \$20 for members of our congregations who are not members of Sisterhood. Registration is required. Register at tinyurl.com/Joint-Sister and then come on down to Beth El of Cedarhurst on November 28 for this memorable event!

Our next Book Club meeting will be held December 12 at 8:00 pm at the home of Nancy Levitt, with a Zoom option. Roberta Sugarman will be reviewing *The Postcard*, by Anne Berest. Our hybrid book club meetings enable our members who no longer live locally to continue to participate. Yes, we take responsibility for keeping our long-distance members engaged!

With the Barbie movie making such a splash, have you thought about whether Barbie is a Bombshell or Jewish feminist Icon? Did you know that the inventor of Barbie was a Jewish independent working woman named Ruth Handler who took responsibility for filling a gap in the toy industry in 1959? She recognized that dolls focused only on motherhood, with girls playing with baby dolls, so she created a doll that could help girls consider other life roles. As the Keynote Speaker at BQLI Region Torah Fund kickoff event, NYU Professor and Author Susan Shapiro will unravel the dissonance between Barbie's sexualized appearance and the feminist pioneer she was. In addition, the Torah Fund speaker will be Rabbi Rishe Groner, a recent JTS graduate and Congregation Beth Ohr Rabbi. The event will take place Wednesday, November 1 at 5:30 pm at Congregation Beth Ohr in Bellmore. The registration link is in the weekly email.

Don't forget that all members of Sisterhood are also members of Women's League for Conservative Judaism and BQLI Region.

We're in the process of planning more events for this winter, so be sure to read the HERJC weekly email and the emails from Sisterhood. Thank you to the wonderful women of Sisterhood who have taken responsibility for planning our activities!



Sisterhood Events

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP EVENT GET DUNN UP

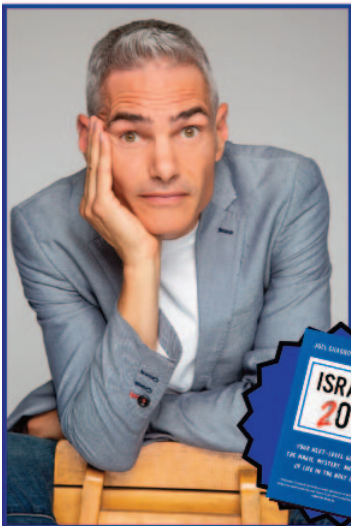
■ Wednesday, November 8 at 6:45 pm

We will have a makeup demonstration featuring makeup for different ages presented by Get Dunn Up. Join us and learn helpful makeup tips.



ISRAEL NIGHT WITH JOEL CHASNOFF

■ Tuesday, November 28 at 8:00 at Temple Beth El of Cedarhurst



A tribute to Israel at 75! Israel 201 - A Night in Solidarity with Israel.

Join us as American-Israeli Comedian and Author, Joel Chasnoff shares what life is like living in Israel: its joys, sorrows, magic, mystery and chaos.

Open to members of our congregations. Free for Sisterhood Members. \$20 for non-Sisterhood members. Register by November 20 at <https://tinyurl.com/Joint-Sister>

A joint Sisterhood event sponsored by: The Sisterhoods of: Temple Beth El of Cedarhurst, South Baldwin Jewish Center, Oceanside Jewish Center, Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Centre, East Meadow Beth-El Jewish Center, and Congregation B'nai Shalom-Beth David

Questions? Contact Beverly Wachtel at bowachtel@gmail.com

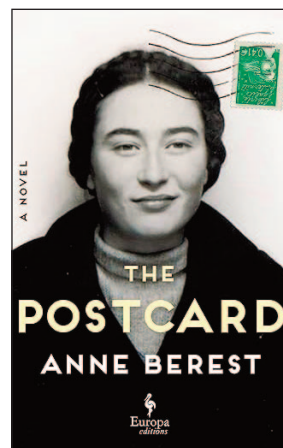
SISTERHOOD BOOK DISCUSSION

■ Tuesday, December 12 at 8:00 pm

The Postcard by Anne Berest

The Postcard is a vivid portrait of twentieth-century Parisian intellectual and artistic life, an enthralling investigation into family secrets, and poignant tale of a Jewish family devastated by the Holocaust and partly restored through the power of storytelling.

The discussion will be led by Roberta Sugarman at the home of Nancy Levitt. Interested in joining us? Contact Book Club Chairperson Roberta Sugarman at Roberta.sugarman@gmail.com.



ANNUAL SISTERHOOD WARM CLOTHING DRIVE

November 5-6 all day
in front entrance/
lobby area



Time to clean the closets!
We are collecting new and gently used items for men, women, teens, children and babies.

Donate

Coats, Jackets, Hats, Scarves, Gloves, Boots, Suits, Sweaters, etc.

Volunteers Needed

Help collect!
Contact the main office for more info.

Save these
January
Dates

Sisterhood Shabbat
Saturday, January 13

BRINGO
Thursday, January 18

Recycling Opportunities at HERJC



The Nursery School Collects

used ink cartridges, cell phones and "garbage" (which becomes art!), such as CLEAN paper towel tubes, coffee cans, egg crates, baby food jars, plastic containers, ribbons, wrapping paper, wallpaper, buttons, yarn, spools, fabric, shopping bags and anything else you can think of! **They can be dropped off outside the Nursery School doors, or call the office at 599-1169.**

HERJC Collects Batteries!

Used batteries are poisoning our landfills! Help save the earth by bringing your used batteries to the synagogue for collection and proper recycling.



Small Acts That Bring Big Results!

November Calendar

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY



Commemorate a happy event by placing a leaf on the **TREE OF LIFE** in our Lobby. Contact the office.

5 21 CHESHVAN

Daylight Saving Time Ends
Sisterhood Coat Drive
9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
9:00 am - Building Blocks through Kitah Vav
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

6 22 CHESHVAN

Nursery Celebration of Election Day
Sisterhood Coat Drive
8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
7:00 pm - House Committee Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Executive Committee Meeting

7 23 CHESHVAN

Election Day
No Nursery or Religious School
8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Board of Education Meeting

12 28 CHESHVAN

9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
9:00 am - Building Blocks through Kitah Vav
9:00 am - Kitah Gan & Alef Family Fun Day
6:00 pm - USY Iron Chef and Geshher Bingo Night
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

13 29 CHESHVAN

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
6:00 pm-9:00 pm ECC Vendor Night
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Ritual Committee Meeting

14 1 KISLEV

Rosh Chodesh
8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
4:15 pm - Kitah Gan through Kitah Hay
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

19 6 KISLEV

9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
9:00 am - Building Blocks through Kitah Vav
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
USY & 8th Grade Fall Convention

20 7 KISLEV

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Congregational Meeting and Open Board of Directors Meeting

21 8 KISLEV

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:15 pm - Kitah Gan through Kitah Hay
6:15 pm - USY & Geshher Friendsgiving
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

26 13 KISLEV

Thanksgiving Weekend
No Religious School
9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

27 14 KISLEV

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

28 15 KISLEV

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:15 pm - Kitah Gan through Kitah Hay
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



of Events

WEDNESDAY

1 17 CHESHVAN

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

8 24 CHESHVAN

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
9:30 am - Nursery Veteran's Day
Celebration Honoring VETS
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

15 2 KISLEV

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

22 9 KISLEV

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

29 16 KISLEV

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
8:30 am - Nursery Storytime
with Hazzan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Rabbi Talmud Class

THURSDAY

2 18 CHESHVAN

8:00 am - In Person
& Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

9 25 CHESHVAN

8:00 am - In Person
& Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

16 3 KISLEV

8:00 am - In Person
& Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

23 10 KISLEV

Thanksgiving Day
Office Closed
No Nursery School
9:00 am - In Person
& Zoom Morning Minyan
No Evening Minyan

30 17 KISLEV

8:00 am - In Person
& Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

FRIDAY

3 19 CHESHVAN

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
5:31 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - First Friday Kabbalat
Shabbat Services
7:00 pm - First Friday Kabbalat
Shabbat Dinner

10 26 CHESHVAN

Veterans Day (Observed)
No Nursery School
9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:23 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

17 4 KISLEV

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:17 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service
USY & 8th Grade Fall Convention

24 11 KISLEV

Native American Heritage Day
Office Closed
No Nursery School
8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:13 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

SATURDAY

4 20 CHESHVAN PARSHAT VAYERA

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
6:30 pm - Havdalah

11 27 CHESHVAN PARSHAT CHAYEI SARA

Hannah Klonsky Bat Mitzvah
9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:23 pm - Havdalah

18 5 KISLEV PARSHAT TOLDOT

Zoe Rechtweg Bat Mitzvah
9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:18 pm - Havdalah
USY & 8th Grade Fall Convention

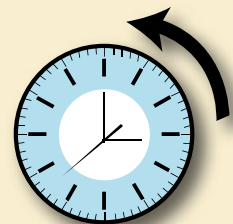
25 12 KISLEV PARASHAT VAYETZEI

9:30 am - Instrumental
Shabbat Service
5:15 pm - Havdalah

November 5th

**Daylight Savings
Time Ends**

Set Clocks Back 1 Hour



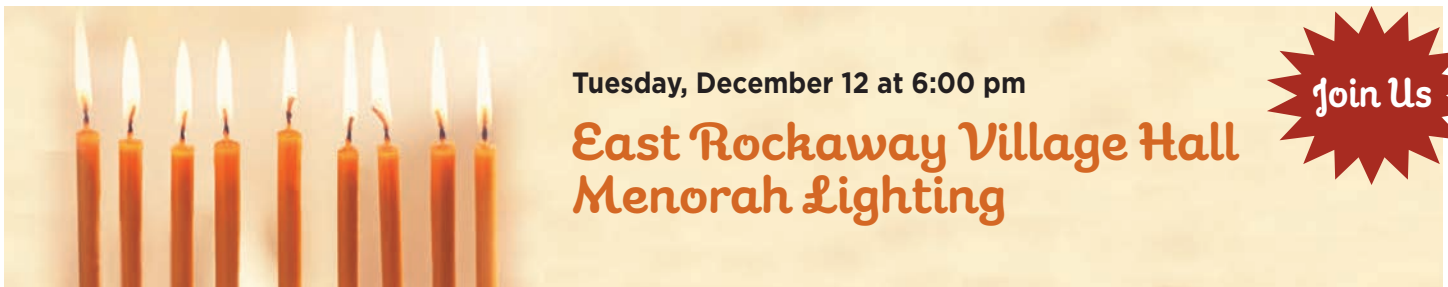
December Calendar

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY



3 20 KISLEV 9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 9:00 am - Building Blocks through Kitah Vav 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan	4 21 KISLEV 8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 8:00 pm - Executive Committee Meeting	5 22 KISLEV First Friday - No Religious School Nursery Picture Day 8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 8:00 pm - Board of Education Meeting	6 23 KISLEV Nursery Picture Day 8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
10 27 KISLEV Chanukah Day 3 - Fourth Candle 9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 9:00 am - Building Blocks through Kitah Vav 11:00 am - Chanukah Brunch 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 	11 28 KISLEV Chanukah Day 4 - Fifth Candle 8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 8:00 pm - Board of Directors Meeting 8:00 pm - Ritual Committee Meeting 	12 29 KISLEV Chanukah Day 5 - Sixth Candle 8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan 4:15 pm - Kitah Gan through Kitah Hay at East Rockaway Menorah Lighting 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 	13 1 TEVET Rosh Chodesh Chanukah Day 6 - Seventh Candle 8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan 5:30 pm - Nursery Chanukah Party 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 
17 5 TEVET 9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 9:00 am - Building Blocks through Kitah Vav 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan	18 6 Tevet 8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 8:00 pm - House Committee Meeting	19 7 TEVET 8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 4:15 pm - Kitah Gan through Kitah Hay 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan	20 8 TEVET 8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 8:30 am - Nursery Storytime 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan 8:00 pm - Rabbi Talmud Class
24 12 TEVET Winter Break No Religious School 9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan	25 13 TEVET Winter Break No Nursery School 9:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan	26 14 TEVET Winter Break No Nursery School or Religious School 8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan	27 15 TEVET Winter Break No Nursery School 8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
31 19 TEVET Winter Break No Religious School 9:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan 7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan			



of Events

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

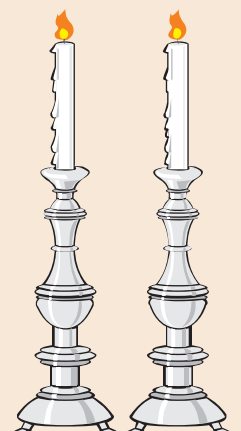
SATURDAY

Light the Shabbat
Candles and
Recite the
Following Blessing

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה'
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר
שֶׁל שַׁבָּת.

Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai
E-lohei-nu Me-lech
Ha-olam
A-Sher Kee-di-shah-noo
Bi-mitz-vo-tav
Vi-tzee-va-noo
Li-had-leek Ner
Shel Sha-bat.

Blessed are You,
Lord our God,
Ruler of the universe,
who has hallowed us
through commandments,
and has commanded
us to kindle the
Shabbat Lights.



Candlelighting
times are listed
on the calendar

1 18 KISLEV

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:10 pm - Candlelighting
8:00 pm - Chevra Shabbat

2 19 KISLEV PARASHAT VAYISHLACH

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:13 pm - Havdalah

7 24 KISLEV

Chanukah First Candle

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
7:00 pm - Community Chanukah "Light Up the Night"
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



8 25 KISLEV

Chanukah Day 1 - Second Candle

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
4:09 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Services
7:00 pm - Shabbat Services & Dinner



9 26 KISLEV PARASHAT VEYESHEV

Chanukah Day 2 - Third Candle

9:30 am - Instrumental Shabbat Service
5:12 pm - Havdalah



14 2 TEVET

Chanukah Day 7 - Eighth Candle

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



15 3 TEVET

Chanukah Day 8

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
4:10 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service
7:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner

16 4 TEVET

PARASHAT MIKETZ

9:30 am - Shabbat Service, Religious School Shabbat
5:14 pm - Havdalah

21 9 TEVET

8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

22 10 TEVET

Asarah B'Tevet

8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:13 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

23 11 TEVET PARASHAT VAYIGASH

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:17 pm - Havdalah

28 16 TEVET

Winter Break

No Nursery School
8:00 am - In Person & Zoom Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

29 17 TEVET

Winter Break

No Nursery School
8:00 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:18 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

30 18 TEVET PARASHAT VAYECHI

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:22 pm - Havdalah





Harry Laufer Education Center



Nursery School

CHERYL KARP

Here at the HERJC Early Childhood Center, we have been reeling, as have many of you. We are worried about family, friends, and colleagues, and are consumed with grief, anxiety and fear, while trying just to get through our lives, take care of our families, and be present for work. I am horrified by the news from Israel and feel great sympathy for the people who were hurt and witness to unspeakable crimes. So many will physically carry the scars of mistrust and fear for the rest of their lives.

We want you to know that we are here to help you process as our community comes together, and help children spark hope even during dark days. When I sent my children to school, to the local movie theater, or to the city with their friends. I always had a sense of security. My generation of parents took this gift lightly, but it is apparent to me that this gift is no longer available to parents.

The recent events in Israel have made me worry about our children. As an educator for over 35 years, I am saddened by the amount of violence our children are exposed to each day and am dedicated to bringing the joys of childhood to the children who attend our school.

A few years ago, I read Marion Wright Edelman's article on violence in the lives of children in the National Association for the Education of Young Children Magazine. The article frightened me as a parent and grandparent, as an educator working with young children, and as a concerned member of a society who has watched the crime rate soar in the last decade.

Let me share some statistics, so that you can better understand the magnitude of this problem for children. By the age of 18, the average child will have seen 26,000 killings on television. The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry states that "extensive viewing of television violence by children causes greater aggressiveness." Sometimes, watching even a single violent program

can increase aggressiveness. Children who view shows in which violence is realistic, frequently repeated, or unpunished, are more likely to imitate what they see. Children with emotional, behavioral, learning, or impulse control problems may be more easily influenced by TV violence. Young people can be affected even when the family atmosphere shows no tendency toward violence.

An estimated 2.7 million children were reported to protection agencies in the early 1990's as victims of neglect, physical abuse, or emotional maltreatment. I can only imagine what the statistic is now given the present state of affairs. The number of children reported abused or neglected has tripled nationwide since 1980. Gun-related violence takes the life of an American child at least every three hours and the lives of at least 25 children every three days.

Edelman says, "We adults have failed dismally on our most basic responsibility to protect our children from violence." Living on the South Shore of Long Island, I have always felt somewhat removed from all the statistics reported on violence in America. Yet through the years of my children's schooling, I heard them tell me frightening stories about gangs, drugs, and fighting in the local schools. Violence was not restricted to any one group or community. Children everywhere are affected by violence.

Parents need to take a more active role in monitoring what children view on the television and in the theater. Many cartoons, harmless as they might seem, have an enormous amount of violent actions such as shooting, clobbering on heads, pushing off cliffs, etc. Just watch the cartoon "Scooby Doo."

This country has committed itself to a national goal that all children will start school ready to learn. Children need to be safe and secure at home in order to develop the positive sense of self necessary to their growing into healthy, productive, and caring adults. Children need to be safe in their communities to be able to explore and develop relation-

CHERYL KARP *Continued on next page*



Nursery Events

Nursery Celebration of Election Day

■ **Monday, November 6**

Welcome Local Veterans

■ **Wednesday, November 8**

The HERJC Nursery School will be honoring our local Veterans.

Morning Storytime

■ **Wednesday, November 29, 8:30 am**

■ **Wednesday, December 20, 8:30 am**

Join us for storytime before school in our parenting center – breakfast included!

Picture Day

■ **Tuesday-Wednesday, December 5-6**

ECC Vendor Fair

All Welcome
Shop for the Holidays

Monday, November 13
6:00–9:00 pm



School
Closed

- **November 7, Election Day**
- **November 10, Veteran's Day (observed)**
- **November 23-24, Thanksgiving**
- **December 25-January 1, Winter Break**

CHERYL KARP *Continued from previous page*

ships with other people, and children need to be safe at school in order to learn.

Edelman gives concrete ways for everyone in our society to be actively involved in solving this problem. Her first step is to have us generate a sense of public outrage. We have become desensitized and apathetic. Our nation has poured millions of dollars into the criminal justice system.. She indicates that it is imperative that we balance these funds by putting equal amounts of money into politics that support the provision of jobs that pay adequate wages, affordable housing, adequate health care, high quality early childhood and school age programs, safe neighborhoods, and more mental health professionals in all schools. As a nation, we need to support efforts to limit the availability of firearms and other weapons.

Action must be taken to regulate children's television programming and to limit media exposure to violence. Along with these regulations for TV, there have to be controls on toys and licensed products linked to movies and programs being watched. Parents need to do their job at home by saying no to the use of violent toys such as guns and swords.

Parents need to give a firm message to children about their home being a place where even imagined acts of violence with make-believe toys will not be condoned. It is time, as well, to teach children what non-violent conflict resolution strategies looks like when practiced.

I entered the early childhood field because I knew that the early childhood programs have tremendous input on supporting the healthy development of children and families. As early childhood professionals know, we are in the position to influence public commitment, action and policy, to prevent violence in children's lives—but we can't do it alone. All adults must assume the responsibility for keeping 'childhood' as a sacred part in a child's life. Our society cannot afford the devastating effects of failing to protect its children.

As the news in Israel continues to unfold, and amidst all the violence and terror we all feel, please know that the staff at the HERJC Early Childhood Center is committed to making our school a safe haven where children can be children.



Religious School



November 3

First Friday Kabbalat
Shabbat and Dinner

December 8

First Friday Kabbalat
Shabbat and Dinner

December 12

Village of East Rockaway
Candlelighting

December 16

Religious School Shabbat

Religious School Schedule of Events

November

11/3 • 4:15-6:15 pm	First Friday followed by Kabbalat Shabbat Services & Dinner
11/5 • 9:00 am-Noon	Building Blocks through Vav
11/7 • NO SCHOOL	ELECTION DAY
11/12 - 9:00 am-Noon	Building Blocks through Vav Gan & Alef Family Fun Day
11/14 • 4:15-6:15 pm	Gan through Hay
11/19 • 9:00 am-Noon	Building Blocks through Vav
11/21 • 4:15-6:15 pm	Gan through Hay
11/26 • NO SCHOOL	THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
11/28 • 4:15-6:15 pm	Gan through Hay

December

12/3 • 9:00 am-Noon	Building Blocks through Vav
12/5 • NO SCHOOL	First Friday (this week)
12/8 • 4:15-6:15 pm	First Friday followed by Kabbalat Shabbat Services & Dinner
12/10 • 9:00 am-Noon	Building Blocks through Vav
12/12 • 4:15-6:15 pm	Gan through Hay
12/16 • 9:30 am-Noon	Religious School Shabbat
12/17 • 9:00 am-Noon	Building Blocks through Vav
12/19 - 4:15-6:15 pm	Gan through Hay
12/24 • NO SCHOOL	WINTER BREAK
12/26 • NO SCHOOL	WINTER BREAK
12/31 • NO SCHOOL	WINTER BREAK



Family Engagement

REBECCA OSDER



"What are you painting?" a friend once asked a very young Syd. "Green," was the simple reply. "I see that you are using green paint, but what are you painting a picture of?" Again, a simple reply. "Just green!"

The conversation went on for a bit, my friend becoming frustrated because she could not get the desired response. Syd was thrilled to be painting GREEN.

What my friend did not notice was that Syd was using a new paint set. The palette had only the primary colors: red, yellow, and blue. Syd was thrilled to have discovered green and was simply painting green. To Syd, this discovery seemed like a small miracle.

There is so much going on in our everyday lives. There is so much going on in the world around us every day. We have become conditioned to expect certain replies to the questions we ask. We often forget to take the time to look at the big picture. We forget to appreciate the small miracles that happen around us every day.

As Chanukah approaches, and we are reminded of the miracles of long ago, let's take a moment to remember the miracle of the children who surround us every day. As our concern for our brothers and sisters in Israel deepens, let's find hope in the wonder and curiosity of the youngest members of our community. Let us come together, work together, pray together that the light never goes out! I am looking forward to the light and love that surrounds us during Chanukah.

HERJC Youth

SARA ROTJAN



Hi all! I'm Sara Rotjan and I am so excited to join the HERJC family as the USY Advisor. I live in Merrick and am a longtime member of the Conservative movement. For the past 16 years, I have grown a career in marketing and am currently working towards my MS in Child Life. My passion has always been working with children, watching them develop, and

helping to grow their leadership skills. As a former USYer, a Youth Director in Queens for 10 years, and a mother of young kids, coming back to USY is an exciting opportunity for me. I look forward to work-ing with you, your children, and the entire HERJC com-munity throughout the year.

HERJC USY/Gesher Calendar

November/December

November 12	Gesher Bingo Night & USY Iron Chef
November 21	USY & Gesher Friendsgiving

Looking ahead . . .

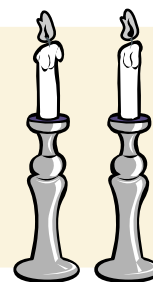
January 7	Gesher Slime Making & USY Family Game Night
February 11	Gesher Paint Night with Parents & USY Escape the Room



Friday, November 17, Following 6:00 pm Services

KABBALAT SHABBAT DINNER

Contact the office to RSVP, 516-599-2634, office@herjc.org



Personals and Donations

Personals

Mazal Tov!

B'nai Mitzvah

Robin and Aryeh Klonsky as their daughter, Hannah becomes a Bat Mitzvah.

Erica and David Rechtweg their daughter, Zoe becomes a Bat Mitzvah.

Special Wedding Anniversaries

• NOVEMBER

Elana and Zinovy Abelev
Rebecca and Roman Kizhner
Arline and Jules Kotcher
Melissa and Paul Kotcher

• DECEMBER

Lynne and Arnold Gordon
Joy and Larry Kaminsky
Harriet and Neil Meixler
Robin and Benjamin Mintz

Special Birthdays

• NOVEMBER

Stanley Alt	Adam Moser
Lawrence Cohen	Kenny Osder
Adrienne Lurie	Allan Trompeter

• DECEMBER

Arthur Debin	Barbara Brand
Jacqueline Fetner	Silverman
Alana Kolbrenner	Steven Stern
Larry Miller	Roberta Sugarman
Jonathan Polansky	

Condolences

Michael Frank on the loss of his father, Richard Norman Frank.

Rabbi Lev Herrnsen on the loss of his father, Kenneth Carl Herrnsen z'l.

Stuart Polokoff on the loss of his mother, Patricia May Polokoff.

Welcome New Members

(July–October, 2023)

Ilene and Ralph Bronspigel
Jeanine Suarez and Mario Celis
Lilya and Anatoly Fain
Kenny Fink and Jacqui Simons
Leah Horowitz and Mayer Fulda
Karyn and Michael Graham
Chana and Asher Laub
Stephanie and Daniel Palmadesso
Natalia and Ted Rojas
David Schieren and Cristina Zancani
Melissa Heller-Seid and Shoshana Seid
Arielle and Joshua Stein

Funds

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Chesed Fund

Anita and Sy Zaret in appreciation of HERJC.

Education Fund

Lisa and Edmund Cohen in honor of the engagement of Jonathan, son of Adele Goldberg and Leo Weinreich to Madeline Gelfand.

Lisa and Edmund Cohen with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Susan Julien Levitt.

Hedda and Jeff Feigenblatt with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Marc Goldberg.

Terri, Steven and Fara Gold and Melissa Lobel in honor of Rita Doneger's 100th birthday.

Terri and Steven Gold in honor of the marriage of Spencer, son of Ora and David Kirsch to Shellie Mittleberg.

Lauren and Barry Goldstein with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Marc Goldberg.

Marsha and Larry Miller in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Alexa Jordan Reilly.

Audrey and Elliott Polinsky in honor of Shari Doloboff's 90th birthday.

Denise and Bob Sher in honor of Joe Brofsky receiving the Northwell Health Dental Medicine Public Service Award in recognition of outstanding performance.

Denise and Bob Sher in honor of Ethan Ezratty graduating from Hofstra Law School.

Edmund Cohen in memory of his parents, Edna and Louis.

Lisa Cohen in memory of her father, Paul Sonenthal.

Valerie and Abbey Doneger in memory of Muriel Stern.

Valerie and Abbey Doneger in memory of Elsie Dubrowsky Mallis.

Pam and Dan Gerstman in memory of Noel Estes.

Marsha and Larry Miller in memory of Muriel Stern.

Hazzan's Music Fund

Barbara and Kenneth Rappaport in appreciation of Hazzan's caring and concern and officiating at Barbara's mother's funeral.

Denise and Bob Sher in honor of the birth of Nathaniel Asher, grandson of Vicki Cordova.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Barbara and Paul Cooper in honor of the marriage of Spencer, son of Ora and David Kirsch to Shellie Mittleberg.

Barbara and Paul Cooper in honor of the birth of Stella Irene, granddaughter of Joan and Donald Schaeffer.

Kathy and Larry Feffer with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Marc Goldberg.

Barbara and Kenneth Rappaport in appreciation of the Rabbi's caring and concern and officiating at Barbara's mother's funeral.

Denise and Bob Sher in honor of the birth of Natalie Faye, granddaughter of Sherry and Stewart Friedman.

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Nora and Jack Skiba in honor of Jane Lesser's special birthday.

Nora and Jack Skiba in honor of Laura and Heath Underweisers' 20th anniversary.

Nora and Jack Skiba in honor of the marriage of Vicki, daughter of Jinette and Tony Quinones to Kevin.

Nora and Jack Skiba in honor of the baby naming of Lucy, granddaughter of Marsha and Larry Miller.

Nora and Jack Skiba with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Marc Goldberg.

Marsha Becker in memory of her father, Herbert Strassman.

Madeline Harrow in memory of her mother, Jeanette Trieger and her grandfather, Benjamin Markowitz.

Madeine and Keith Harrow in memory of their brother-in-law, Stanley Ehrlich.

Lisa and Ken Kornblau in memory of Marion Rolnick.

Nora and Jack Skiba in memory of Gerry Jeros.

Nora and Jack Skiba in memory of Millicent Rothstein.

Youth Fund

Marsha and Larry Miller with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Marc Goldberg.

General Synagogue Fund

Pearl Aarons with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Arline Kitcher.

Vicki Cordova in honor of the birth of her grandson Nathaniel Asher Cordova.

Marilyn Janow in honor of Rita Doneger's 100th birthday.

Marilyn Janow in honor of Pearl Aarons' 103rd birthday.

Jane and Marty Lesser with wishes for the complete and speedy recovery of Marc Goldberg.

Lauren and Daniel Mirkin in honor of Shari Doloboff's 90th birthday.

Estelle Schwalb in honor of Rita Doneger's 100th birthday.

Gail Alweis in memory of her father, Leon Feinberg.

Ruth Balkin in memory of her father, Harry.

Ilene Browner in memory of her father, Murray.

Joan Berkowitz in memory of her father, Milton Schusterman and her grandfather, Charles Rosenblatt.

Linda Burton in memory of her sister, Beth Mesika.

Dora Burstein in memory of her mother, Rose Lassing.

Elyse Coleman in memory of her mother, Beverly Eisenberg.

Barbara Cooper in memory of her sister, Rochelle Harris.

Eileen Davidson in memory of her husband, Peter.

Shelly Debin in memory of her mother, Beverly Ritholtz.

Alyce diamond in memory of her mother, Belle Landesman.

Lisa Drillich in memory of her father, Harvey Grapek.

Richard Drillich in memory of his father, Joseph.

Irene Farber in memory of her husband, Sheldon and her mother-in-law, Gertrude.

Judith Frank in memory of her mother, Rose Oppenheim.

Pamela Gerstman in memory of her father, Noel Estes.

Daniel Gerstman in memory of his father, Harvey.

Barry Goldstein in memory of his mother, Gloria.



THE BELONGING PROJECT – IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CLAL!

Thank you to everyone who filled out the Belonging Project survey. Your responses have been instrumental in providing the congregation with necessary feedback as we evaluate and update all that we are doing. At this stage we are looking forward to participating in a workshop with the other New York area temples and synagogues that are part of our cohort. We will be getting the results of our survey, learning ways to put the data to use and planning with our internal team on how to better engage our wonderful HERJC community. This is a year long project where we will also benefit from one-to-one coaching from a CLAL staff person who can help us to understand the results of our survey and how to use best practices going forward. We thank our Belonging Project team; Rabbi Schlesinger, Hazzan Zakarin, Lisa Stein as the professionals and Jason Melzer, Carly Weg and Laura Underweiser as the lay committee members.

The Belonging Project is a cutting edge initiative that merges scientific research, relational best practices, and ancient Jewish wisdom. This is a program of Clal, The National Center for Learning and Leadership) with funding provided by UJA Federation of New York. HERJC is proud to be represented here.



Clal



Rita Gottlieb in memory of her mother, Sophie Barsky.

Charney Greenberg in memory of her mother, Lillian Zucker.

Sandra Greenberg in memory of her grandfather, Abraham Weisman.

Marvin Greenberg in memory of his grandfather, David Sherman.

Edward Halbridge in memory of his brother, Donald.

Fred Knobloch in memory of his mother, Regina.

Mark Kurot in memory of his grandfather, Solomon.

Evelyn Kutler in memory of her husband, Sidney.

Tamara Lamon in memory of her husband, Fred.

Jeffrey Langendorff in memory of his father, Michael.

Suzanne Levy in memory of her father, Joel Gevarter.

Alan Markowitz in memory of his father, Alex and his brother, Tibor.

Audrey Marrus in memory of her mother, Anne Lord.

Barbara Misikoff in memory of her husband, Stanley.

Rebecca Osder in memory of her mother, Margaret Anton.

Allen Ostroff in memory of his mother, Sally.

Lester Pollack in memory of his mother, Sadie.

Carol Rubinstein in memory of her parents, Rose Fielder Kuntz, Morris Fielder and her brother, Herbert Fielder.

Barbara Schapiro in memory of her mother-in-law, Kate Grossman.

Joan Schaeffer in memory of her father, Irving Behr.

George Schieren in memory of his uncle Jack.

Marlene Schulman in memory of her grandfather, Thomas Custer.

Anita Segal in memory of her mother, Tillie Mortman.

Esther Silverman in memory of her father, Moses Sacksner.

Faye Stein in memory of her mother, Ruth Siegelberg.

Ileane Tischler in memory of her mother, Ruth Landesman.

Stevn Toor in memory of his father, Gary.

Allan Trompeter in memory of his aunt, Dora.

Joel Wecksell in memory of his parents, Sylvia and Abraham.

Miriam Weisbrod in memory of her mother, Rose Lassinger.



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The Pulpit Pen

Rabbi Stanley Platek, November 18, 1977



Among the many themes that play a prominent role on Hanukka-Holiday of Lights, surely the theme of dedication, almost zealotry, stands forth as most central.

If we are to learn anything from the Holiday, we must learn that, just as the survival of the Jewish people rested on the dedicated behavior of the Maccabees, so in our day, the sense of dedication must make its presence felt. A few areas come readily to mind. During the recent Sukkot Holidays, I had several opportunities to talk to the principals of our local schools. Naturally, the issue was the scheduling of tests, new work and special activities on the Holidays which this year, as you will remember, fell on school days. I found most of the principals sympathetic but I also found myself quite embarrassed. As one of the principals pointed out to me, there really was no reason not to schedule tests and new works as most of the Jewish children attend school. Now, I know that the argument could be made that the children attended because the school was scheduling the tests and

new work — yet I wonder what would actually happen if the overwhelming majority of our youngsters stayed out! Would a test to only one-half or one-third of the class be that valid? What good is new work when one-half of the youngsters have not learned it. If we want the non-Jewish world to respect Jewish Holidays, that respect has to start with us — even if it means that our children will miss a day or two of school.

Another case in point, a national debate is taking place about the S.A.T. — the college entrance examinations — and the continuing decline in test scores across-the-counter. I would like to offer another aspect to the debate. Most Jewish students take the test on Shabbat — the tests are offered on other days of the week. Here again, if we expect the gentile world to respect our religion, it must start with us. Here is an almost painless way of emphasizing the Jewish value in “Shabbat,” showing Jewish solidarity and giving support to those Jews who cannot take the test on Saturday and who are made to feel like oddities even among fellow Jews.

I am not suggesting that we will cure the woes of the American Jewish Community if the youngsters take the S.A.T.s on Tuesday. I am suggesting that this is a small step, which perhaps could join many other small steps, coming together to create a little more Jewish sensitivity on our part and a far greater level of respect for the Jewish tradition in the eyes of the non-Jewish world.

Who knows, our children might even learn not to go to movies on Shabbat afternoons. Neither issue will, by itself, bring the Messiah but put together with many others, they might bring us a step closer to being a sensitive and dedicated Jewish community. May we all learn from the Maccabees the willingness to make life a little more inconvenient and a little more Jewish.

See you in Shul. Happy Holiday.



Yahrzeits

*The Yahrzeit of the following beloved relatives of our members will be observed during the next few weeks.
It is especially fitting and proper that the members of the family be present at the appropriate Service to observe this occasion.*

11/1 - 17 Cheshvan

Benjamin Platek

11/2 - 18 Cheshvan

Ruth Kalka
Judith Levine

11/3 - 19 Cheshvan

Betty Goldfinger
Barbara Berger
Regina Rosenfeld

11/4 - 20 Cheshvan

Sarah Altus
Joseph Glass
Louis Mast
Sylvia Hershkoff
Fern Carol Zeitlin

11/5 - 21 Cheshvan

Leon Lurie
Harry Feldscott

11/6 - 22 Cheshvan

Charlotte Nash

11/7 - 23 Cheshvan

Frances Cohen
Martin Stone
Amy Strong
Frieda Streigold

11/8 - 24 Cheshvan

Seymour Saul Fishkind

11/9 - 25 Cheshvan

Dinah Weil
Francis Lebovitz
Samuel Aarons

11/10 - 26 Cheshvan

Samuel Riegel
Rose Meyer

11/11 - 27 Cheshvan

Stanley J. Marcus
Kevin Rubinstein
Kenneth Marcus

11/12 - 28 Cheshvan

Berdie Kaufman
Bayla Solow
Evette Yedid

11/13 - 29 Cheshvan

Joseph Ezratty
Fanny Grunberg
Herbert Warmflash

11/14 - 1 Kislev

Samuel Greenstein
Eydie Weisbrod

11/15 - 2 Kislev

Ida Barash
Louis Taishoff
Oscar Zaretsky
Frances Schwartz

11/16 - 3 Kislev

Annie Borodkin
Nettie Sunshine
Elsa Menchel
Kenneth Kelmenson
Barnet Baron
Benjamin Weiten

11/17 - 4 Kislev

Ruth Rappaport
Emanuel Schaeffer

11/18 - 5 Kislev

Celia Kandelman
Philip Levitt
Gary Bader
Martin Miller
Nettie Knobel
Nat Forrest

11/19 - 6 Kislev

Mildred Gottlieb
Selma Lesser
Herbert Eisenberg

11/20 - 7 Kislev

Delores Cohen
Ruth Harvey

11/21 - 8 Kislev

Kate Rosen
Pauline Gorman
Miriam Herzberg

11/22 - 9 Kislev

Jason Heller

11/23 - 10 Kislev

Benjamin Kolbrenner
Edward S. Pauker

11/24 - 11 Kislev

Helen Benin

11/25 - 12 Kislev

Helen Davis
Bertha Alweis
Solomon Dobin

11/26 - 13 Kislev

Benjamin Schieber
Solomon Dobin
Marcia Arkin

11/27 - 14 Kislev

Jerry Kopito
Jack Baker
Albert Yedid
Irma Reitman

11/28 - 15 Kislev

Phyllis Rodin
Donald Stern

11/29 - 16 Kislev

Samuel Eisenberg
George Brand
Morris Aaron Gold
Herman Commike
Irwin Schecker

11/30 - 17 Kislev

Mary Hauser
Joseph Rost
Frieda Wolk
Myra Denbaum

12/1 - 18 Kislev

Celia Schwartz
Sanford Nadler

12/2 - 19 Kislev

Joseph Pollack
Evelyn Lamon
Scott Kemp
Faye Berger
Herbert White
Beatrice Garver
Ronnie Osder
Sheldon Philip Prager

12/3 - 20 Kislev

Sol Farberman

12/4 - 21 Kislev

Beatrice Black
Elaine Scharf
Goldie Kirschenbaum

12/5 - 22 Kislev

Gus Belmont
Adena Joy Feffer
Violet Davis

12/6 - 23 Kislev

Anna Commike
Miriam Eizikovics
Murray Katz
Julia Leibman
Marilyn Warmflash

12/7 - 24 Kislev

Howard Schneider

12/8 - 25 Kislev

Meyer Klein
Bertha Lieber Feingold
Sydell Gould
Harvey Gorman
Ernestine Chaut
Bernard Morgan

12/9 - 26 Kislev

Morris Sopher
Gloria Krivoskey
Janice Berkowitz
Lori Suser
Harriet Weiss

12/10 - 27 Kislev

Bernard Schoengold
Harold L. Schmier

12/11 - 28 Kislev

Edward S. Abrams
Goldie Nestor

12/12 - 29 Kislev

Lena Sklar Fox

12/13 - 1 Tevet

Herbert Kristeller
Harry Lewner
Henry Jaskol
Mary Silverstein

12/14 - 2 Tevet

Jacob Levine
Edith Perlman
Claire Frankel
Sarah Ain Morenstein
Esther Weisner

12/15 - 3 Tevet

Seymour Greenberg
Walter Green
Sidney Levitt
Roslyn Zimmerman
Howard Bender

12/16 - 4 Tevet

Moe Trompeter
Myrna Turkel

12/17 - 5 Tevet

Helen Frischer
Ruth Brofsky
Pearl Kalikow
Lorraine Heyer

12/18 - 6 Tevet

Mannie Alt
Abraham Borodkin
Ray Steinberg
Florence Brodney
Morris Rosenblatt
Dorothy Alt
Harold Mechlin
Edith Greenberger

12/19 - 7 Tevet

Edward Orgel
Arnold Sher

12/20 - 8 Tevet

Louis Landesman
Ruth Cohen-Barash
Nathan Klein
Arnold Kemp

12/21 - 9 Tevet

Samuel Weiss
Ira Zapolsky

12/22 - 10 Tevet

Rubin Steinberg

12/23 - 11 Tevet

Edward Paster
Rose Freda Olin
Florence Behr
Sara Fisher
William Ritholtz

12/24 - 12 Tevet

Leon Rosen
Phyllis Lenkofsky
Arlene Weiler

12/25 - 13 Tevet

David Bender
Frieda Gutenplan

12/26 - 14 Tevet

Selma Silverman
Sinaj Weinreich
Gail Serman
Clifford Wachtel

12/27 - 15 Tevet

Barney Kaminsky
Max Schwartz

12/29 - 17 Tevet

Herb Moelis
Gary Roth

12/30 - 18 Tevet

Bernice Stein
Artie Mintz

12/31 - 19 Tevet

Nathan Gutenplan
Freda Gevarter





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