MJCBY WNEWS

March 2024, Adar I 5784 – Adar II 5784



IN THIS ISSUE:

From the Rabbi's Desk	3-4
Kiddush Lunch Volunteer Needed	4
Cantor's Notes	5
President's Message	6
Staff Updates	7
March Events	8-9
Security Corner	10
Development	11
Shalom Yeladim	12
Religious School	13-14
Ari Charm Bar Mitzvah/B'Nai Mitzvah	15
Retreat	
JYC (Jewish Young Community)	16
Call for Volunteers – Office Help Needed	16
Lifelong Learning	17-18
Sisterhood News & Events	19-21
Men's Club/Good & Welfare	22
Social Action	23
Adult Ed	24

April Events	25-26
Inclusion Committee & Contributions	27
Yahrzeits	28
Ads	29-30

MJCBY CLERGY & STAFF

CLERGY

Rabbi Adam Gillman Cantor Shana Onigman **STAFF**

Gadi Ben Menachem, Executive Director Rockey Cornell, Office Administrator Michael Roberts, Controller Rebekah (Becky) Narli, Shalom Yeladim Director Miriam Loew, Education and Program Director/Youth Advisor Flo Sager, Religious School Administrator Isaiah Ward & Marco Tello, Custodians

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jason Navarino, President Marci Charm, 1st Vice President Alexis McGrath, 2nd Vice President Doug Goldstein, Treasurer Eric Weinstock, Financial Secretary Rita Gotfried, Secretary Rebecca Wanatick & Amy Weinstock, Immediate Past Presidents Ira Hammer & Fern Spitzer, Advisors

ARMS OF THE SYNAGOGUE & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Adult Education – David Ganz & Peppi Glass Board of Education – Marci Charm Development – Irv Cohen & Sara Forman Facilities – Fern Spitzer Gemilut Hasadim – Debbie Goldstein History – Lewis Stone Inclusion – Rebecca Wanatick Jewish Young Community - Nathan Vaisbort & Asher Weinstein Membership – Amy Brunswick & Rebecca Wanatick Personnel – Rita Gotfried Ritual - Howard Baum, Paul Green, & Ira Hammer Security – Alexis McGrath Shalom Yeladim – Fern Spitzer Social Action - Louis Bodian & Howard Buxbaum Technology – Paul Green, Mark Levine, and Amy Weinstock **MEN'S CLUB**

Mark Levine (917) 439-8366

SISTERHOOD

Dorothy Cohen (973) 361-4338 Heidi Schleifer-Fleischman (973) 615-5181

SISTERHOOD JUDAICA GIFT SHOP

Sharon Barkauskas (201) 874-8744, Vivian Laska (973) 984-8178, Kim Synalovski (973) 714-7636, Janet Appelbaum (973) 886-0702 & Ivy Rubin (973) 781-0844

SISTERHOOD KIDDUSH COMMITTEE

Dorothy Cohen (973) 361-4338

SISTERHOOD TORAH FUND

Linda Rosenbaum (973) 895-2390

NEWSLETTER

Paula Czeisler & Rockey Cornell, Editors & Designers

Fran Loewensteiner, Copy Editor

WHAT IS GEMILUT HASADIM?

Gemilut Hasadim means "bestowing kindness". In Judaism, an attribute of G-d is said to be imitated by those who show personal kindness towards others.

The Gemilut Hasadim Committee at MJCBY is here to help support you and your family during times of need. Whether experiencing an illness, recovering from surgery, or having lost a loved one, we are here to help make difficult times a little easier.

We are able to cook and deliver meals, provide support during shiva, or help connect you with other resources. If you or a fellow congregant could benefit from our services, please contact Debbie Goldstein.

If you would like to be added to the list of those available to help when needs arise, please contact Debbie as well.

debbiegoldstein24@yahoo.com 973-713-3869

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday Night – 6:15pm Saturday Morning – 9:30am

IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6576297611

Meeting ID: 657 629 7611 Passcode: MJCBY

Join us online for Havdalah at the end of Shabbat every week! Havdalah times listed in weekly e-blast.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



Embracing the Positive Mitzvot of Purim

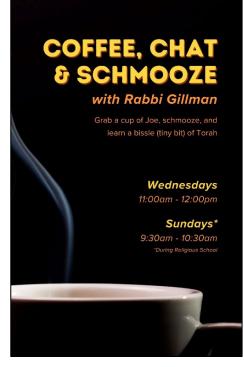
Rabbi Adam Gillman

As we approach the festival of Purim (<u>March</u> <u>23rd - 24th</u>), I am reminded of the resiliency of our people throughout history. This year, as we gather to celebrate, we cannot ignore the difficult moment for our people, both here in

America and around the world, with rising anti-Semitism and in Israel amidst the ongoing war. It seems at odds to hold our festival of joy while so much has been lost; so much of what we felt assured of now has become an open question, a worry, and a fear.

And yet, the story of Purim speaks to us, more so now than in years past. Purim commemorates the miraculous survival of ancestors in the face of adversity. During Purim, we are not only called but obligated to find and uplift joy as we celebrate.

Let us use Purim as an opportunity to strengthen that which binds us: our story, one of perseverance, determination, and strength. By doing so, we can counteract the darkness of hatred with the light of connection, community, and continuation.



Our hearts are heavy as we witness the ongoing war Israel faces. Day by day, the news can weigh heavily not only on our minds but deep within the innermost regions of our hearts and souls. And in this period of difficulty, may we know that our people have long faced opposition and hatred, and yet we have carried with us an unwavering spirit of survival, determination, and courage.

Just as we overcame the evils of Haman, so too may we overcome the forces of hate and destruction here in our day. Let us continue to show up for one another as we lift each other up in prayer, support, and presence as we continue to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Israel.

In the face of so much, one way we can alleviate the weight we carry is to step more deeply into our tradition.

Purim brings four positive mitzvot, which can help us cultivate joy as we strengthen our relationships with one another and strive to find joy during these challenging times.

1. Hearing the reading of *Megillat Esther* (Book of Esther), ideally in both evening and morning. On Purim, the Megillah is read aloud in synagogues and communities worldwide. Traditionally, this is done

in the evening and the next day. Many communities also stage funny Purim spiels (Yiddish for "plays") to accompany the Megillah reading. We have a great one planned for this year, and we hope to see you on Sunday, March 24th!

- Mishloach Manot Sending a gift of food (at least two foods cooked/baked and ready to eat) to at least one other person. This is an obligation to express friendship. A minimal and straightforward way to fulfill this mitzvah will be to exchange those bags with another person in the spirit of togetherness. We hope that everyone will be inspired to do even more with members of their households, neighbors, and friends.
- 3. Se'udat Purim Partaking in a feast on the day of Purim (Sunday, March 24th). In addition to the costume parade and hamantaschen baking, many families also enjoy the Seudah or the Purim feast. This commandment is to "eat, drink, and be merry."
- 4. **Matanot La-Evyonim (Giving gifts of money to at least two needy people).** Purim reminds us to extend our compassion beyond our immediate circles. As we mark our festival of joy, let us not forget those who are less fortunate. Consider making a financial contribution to a charitable organization that supports the issues important to you.

May it bring at least the beginnings of "light and gladness, happiness and honor" (Esther 8:16)

Wishing you an early Purim Sameach,

Rabbi Adam Gillman

KIDDUSH VOLUNTEER NEEDED

I have been in charge of preparing Kiddush lunch for a few years now, and my last Kiddush will be the first weekend in June in memory of Gerry Lahn. Kiddush is no longer the responsibility of Sisterhood, but rather that of MJCBY. If lunch is to continue you will need to find someone willing to do it who is truly dedicated to MJCBY and willing to put in the hours and work necessary for the position. If you are interested, please contact me for more information.

Dorothy Cohen Dorothy irvingcohen@msn.com (973) 361-4338

CANTOR'S NOTES



The Stolen Mezuzah

Cantor Shana Onigman

What do you do when you discover your mezuzah has been stolen?

My older child, Lux, is a second-year student at Smith College. Lux has been very involved with the Smith College Jewish Community, fondly called the SCJC, since their arrival at Smith as a first-year; in fact, they brought such a level of commitment and skills

to the group that at the end of the year the group elected them co-president. This role has come with some extra challenges that presented themselves after October 7th, when, as we know, large numbers of students started buying into anti-Israeli propaganda, and colleges and universities started feeling unwelcoming and even unsafe for Jewish students. Smith College has not been among the worst of these schools, but it hasn't been immune either.

The heart of Jewish life on Smith's campus is the little student-run Kosher Kitchen, known as "the K". Student-run Shabbat evening services and dinners, social activities, and meetings all regularly take place there. Last week, it was discovered that the mezuzah was stolen from the inside doorway of the K. It was reported to campus security, and the police, who discovered that the windows of the K don't actually lock and are fairly easily pushed open. The security and facilities team at the college responded appropriately and are currently working to place proper locks on the windows and install security cameras. While it is unlikely that the person who took the mezuzah will be identified, Lux and the other Jewish students were not only upset by this incident, but also left wondering whether the thief might have been motivated by the antisemitism currents so popular on campus right now. Why would someone steal a mezuzah from a kosher kitchen on a college campus?

From a distance, as a parent, I assured Lux that they had done everything right by reporting the incident to campus safety and police and answering their questions and calling attention to the issue of the windows not having locks. I advised them not to worry too much about who had stolen it, as it isn't their job to try to track down this person, but rather to focus on the opportunity for education: in the process of placing a new mezuzah, they can hold a gathering so students can see the scroll inside and say the blessing when putting it up together.

With Purim coming up, Lux oversaw writing the shpiel. Following the incident of the mezuzah being stolen, Lux had the inspiration to include a plot twist into the story of Esther: upon learning that Mordechai refuses to bow to him because he is a Jew, Haman steals Mordechai's mezuzah, and shows it to his followers, saying: "Kill anyone in Shushan with something like this on their door!" And, for a bit of humor and irony, Haman's followers say: "But, if Mordechai doesn't have one on his door anymore, that must mean we don't kill him, right?" From there, Haman decides he needs to ask the king for special permission to have Mordechai hanged.

This is my favorite response to the problem, and I was so proud of Lux for coming up with it: to creatively take an issue that was designed to upset or frighten us and turn it into humor instead. This is the origin and the point of Purim itself, to turn reality on its head and find the humor in it.

So, this Purim, may we all find ways to turn our challenges, difficulties, and problems -- especially those that come from people who hate us for being Jews -- into humor. *Chag Purim Samei'akh!*

Our clergy is here for you. Please let us know when you need us or when you want to share your good news: a new baby, a marriage, or other simcha. We want to know, but you have to tell us. Please call the office at (973) 538-9292 or email <u>office@mjcby.org</u>. When you have experienced the death of a loved one, please contact Rabbi Gillman at (973) 538-9292 before you make any plans. He will be the most helpful in making these preparations in a proper Jewish manner.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We Need a Miracle. Let's Make it Happen. Jason Navarino

Most of us are probably familiar with the blessings we recite when lighting the Hanukkah menorah each year. The first blessing is similar to the one we say each Friday night, acknowledging the commandment to commemorate the holy day by kindling light. On the first night of Hanukkah, we add the *Shehecheyanu* blessing used to commemorate special times. But I want to focus on the second blessing we say on each of the eight

nights: *she'asah nissim la'avoteinu bayamim haheim bazman hazeh*, praising G-d for performing miracles for our ancestors in those [ancient] days in this time [of year].

Why am I bringing up this menorah blessing in the month of Adar, when joy increases as we approach the holiday of Purim? Because there are three blessings we recite before reading the Megillah on Purim. The first one is specific to the commandment of reading the Megillah. The third one is again *Shehecheyanu*. But the second one? It's *She'asah Nissim*, just as on Hanukkah – the only other time of year we say these words.

On both Hanukkah and Purim, we celebrate the post-Torah miracles of the Jewish people overcoming a numerically larger and better equipped force. I wouldn't say that we Jews overcame a greater force in either case – after all, we had the greatest force of all on our side. But we didn't sit around and let G-d do all the work alone. The mighty Maccabees, through religious zeal and military skill, led the people of Judea to victory over the forces of King Antiochus. And on Purim, we recall the ingenuity of Mordecai and Esther, outwitting the evil scheming of Haman (boo!). Yes, great miracles happened there, in what are now Israel and Iran. But it was a marriage of the human and the holy that saved the day.

There is a lesson for us here (isn't there always?). If we want a miracle to happen, we need to help make it happen. The evils of October 7th, and the frightening reality that much of our world couldn't care less about the plight of our brethren in Israel (never mind the rest of us, facing a surge of antisemitism in the Diaspora), can seem too overwhelming to be overcome through human strength and skill alone. We pray for divine help. But to obtain that help, we must work our own *tucheses* off: speaking up for Israel, educating non-Jews and Jewish youth, bearing witness to what has happened in the Holy Land, supporting the people of Israel financially and emotionally, and working towards a peaceful permanent resolution of the conflict, one that recognizes the humanity of Jews and innocent Palestinians, and distinguishes their humanity from the inhumanity of terrorism and hate.

Likewise, keeping together a non-Orthodox synagogue at a time when synagogue membership is no longer the default option for many Jewish families, and when assimilation into the broader society means that there are many other options for receiving the benefit of our charitable dollars and time, is a constant struggle. If we want to maintain a holy community that supports one another in good times and bad and perseveres our version of Judaism – tradition-loving but modern and egalitarian – for future generations, we can and should pray for help from above, as I do most weeks when davening in our beloved sanctuary or Willner Chapel. But we should also devote our dollars and hours to the cause, showing up and helping to strengthen our community however best each of us can.

So, I end with a prayer. May it be Your will, Ruler of the Universe, that we ourselves get a taste of the miracles you performed for our ancestors in ancient days at this season. And may our actions merit those miracles and bring them to fruition.

STAFF UPDATES



We Have a New Executive Director!

The Board of Directors and Clergy of Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael are pleased to welcome Gadi Ben-Menachem as the new Executive Director of MJCBY, effective March 4th. Gadi comes to MJCBY following a long and successful career in the financial sector, and with significant nonprofit leadership experience. He spent 25 years at Oppenheimer & Co., rising to the rank of Managing Director there. More recently, he was the CEO of Minds Matter, a national college-access and mentoring organization.

In addition to his professional roles in the financial and nonprofit worlds, Gadi also has significant for-profit and nonprofit board experience. He served on the Board of Trustees of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Morris County for 15 years, including two terms as Board Chair and that organization's 2006 Annual Gala Honoree; as Co-Chair of the National Leadership Council for Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, receiving that organization's 2013 National Board Member of the Year Award; as Board Chair of Clothes for Kids' Sake, a business that provides revenues for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern New Jersey; for nearly 15 years on the Morris County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, including two terms as its Chair; and on the Board of the Morris County Park Alliance.

Prior to his financial career, Gadi served in the Israeli Defense Forces as a Company Sergeant Major and Tank Commander. Following October 7, Gadi decided to focus his professional and charitable efforts on strengthening the institutions of the Jewish community in our area. His goals and MJCBY's needs matched up, and we are fortunate for that.

Gadi lives in Morristown with his wife Suzanne. They have two grown daughters. We are pleased to welcome Gadi and Suzanne to our community and invite all of you to stop by or reach out and say hello. Gadi can be reached by email at execdirector@mjcby.org



Rockey's Goodbye

A farewell letter from our office manager

I write this with tears in my eyes and a wistful smile on my face – the hardest goodbye yet. I have told the staff, and the board, and now it's time to tell you, my MJCBY family: My time at the shul has come to an end – my last day in the office is March 18th.

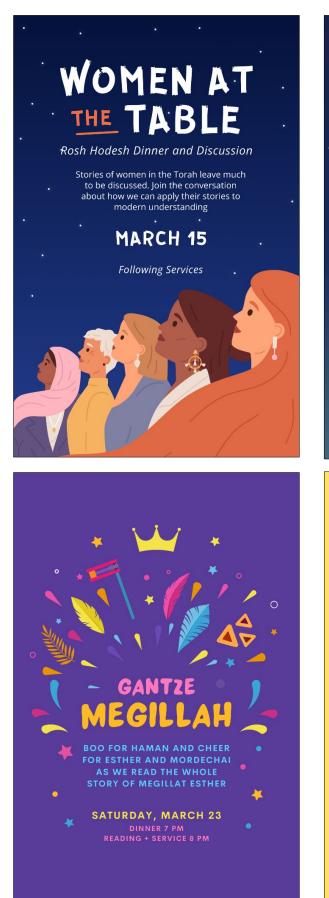
During my phone interview I told Amy Stover that I wanted to work somewhere that I could put down roots and build my community. I had no idea how quickly that wish would come true – you brought me under your wing when I needed you most, and became my second family. I am forever grateful for all of the support you showed me in my time here, and I cherish the friendships I am blessed to take with me as I leave New Jersey and start my new adventure traveling around North America.

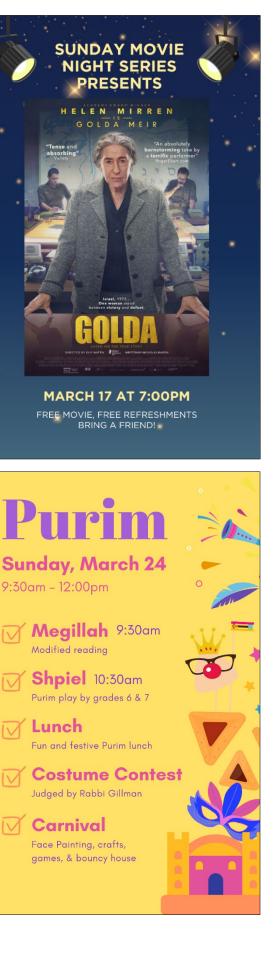
Don't forget to say goodbye before I ride off into the sunset. I am out of the office on Thursday, March 14th, so don't come on that day, but other than that, I will be here from 9am to 4pm, from now until Monday, March 18th.

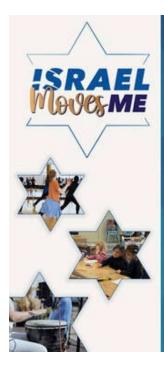
With a heart full of love and best wishes for the future,

Rockey Cornell

MARCH EVENTS







Sunday, March 10th 1pm - 4pm

Come together as a community for physical and emotional well-being, and solidarity with Israel.

Gottesman RTW Academy 146 Dover-Chester Road, Randolph, NJ

The majority of registration proceeds will benefit Israel Emergency Fund. Any questions? Contact israelmovesme@gmail.com Register today for this special community program for Israel

Registration link: https://www.wizevent s.com/register/landing .php?id=8691



Travel to Israel with your synagogue for a transformative four-day journey where you will have the opportunity to meet the heroes and survivors of the October 7 attacks, learn about the challenges of life in Israel, and do meaningful volunteer work that will make a difference during these challenging times.

Mission activities may include:

- Visiting an Army base to volunteer with Sar-El, a unique program that offers support to soldiers and IDF bases
- Volunteering on a farm and meeting farmers affected by the departure of their workers
- Bearing witness by touring Ofakim, our Greater MetroWest partner community that was attacked on October 7, and hearing firsthand experiences from survivors and their families
- Visiting Hostages Square in Tel Aviv (with hope that it will no longer be there) and the Nova Music Festival Memorial



Cost: \$2,900 per person (land-only, based on double occupancy), due at registration.

Price includes all hotel accommodations, meals, transportation, armed security, tour guide, and gratuities.

Questions?

Contact Sarah Diamond at sdiamond@jfedgmw.org

This mission welcomes residents of Greater MetroWest NJ who make a minimum gift of \$360, individually or as a family, to the 2024 UJA Annual Campaign. Your annual gift supports Federation's lifesaving work around the globe and at home in New Jersey.

We support and **#StandWithIsrael** as we continue to build a strong Jewish community here in NJ. Learn more by visiting https://www.jfedgmw .org/event/greatermetrowestsynagogues-israelmission/

SECURITY CORNER



CPR and AED Certification Courses!

Alexis McGrath, Security

Each month MJCBY's Security Committee crafts an article for the newsletter, providing critical information to help keep you and your family safe, both at home and at MJCBY. We work hard to ensure that this is a welcoming, safe, and secure home for our community to thrive. This month, we continue towards our safety goal,

but we are changing up our article!

Today we simply ask that you consider participating in our CPR and AED certification course.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is an emergency lifesaving procedure performed when the heart stops beating (cardiac arrest). An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a portable medical device that delivers an electric shock to restore normal heart rhythm. When used by a trained individual, these procedures can save a life before emergency medical teams arrive.

We are hosting three identical sessions to ensure that we can train as many of our congregants as possible. The course costs \$40 through MJCBY, which is half the cost of what other providers charge.

Adult and Pediatric CPR and AED Certification Course

- Tuesday, March 5th from 11:00 AM 12:30 PM
- Sunday, March 10th from 10:00 AM 11:30 AM (GREAT for Religious School families!)
- Sunday, March 10th from 1:00 PM 2:30 PM
- Thursday, March 14 from 11:00 AM 12:30 PM

Taking this course enables us to do *pikuach nefesh*, saving a life – one of the greatest mitzvot of all. Space is limited, so register ASAP!

Register via ShulCloud here: https://morristownjewishcenter.shulcloud.com/form/CPR-AED-training

If you have any questions about security at MJCBY, want to suggest a Security Corner topic, or would like to volunteer, please email the security committee at <u>security@micby.org</u>.

PLEASE NOTE: In some cases, there are times, in addition to our security guards, when we will need MJCBY member volunteers to be door greeters during events and Friday night and Saturday morning services. Please do not ignore these pleas when you receive them. It takes a village to run a synagogue, and our village is our shul community. Please help us protect our building, especially in these heightened periods. If you would like to be on a list of potential volunteers for Door Greeter duty in the future, please email Alexis at the address above. Thank you!

DEVELOPMENT

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of MJCBY! Without your financial support, beyond your payment of dues, we cannot achieve as much as we desire. Today, we call on you to help strengthen our community by making a commitment to support our Kol Nidre and Education Endowment Fund. As of today, we do not know if matching funds will be available to us for any of our fundraising efforts going forward. Therefore, it is critical for us to reach 100% participation from our congregation for this appeal. No donation is too small or too big. We ask each of you to assess what you can afford and then just stretch a little bit more. We need to be able to fund the necessary expenses to run the daily needs of our shul and the programs that you want and need, beyond the religious aspects of our lives.

On many fronts, the last few years have been challenging and unfortunately the news has not improved. Our dues cover only a portion of the synagogue's operating budget. Maintaining the beauty of our historic building is costly, hence our Building Renovation Fund, and our Education Fund directly benefits the religious school's comprehensive programming that sets MJCBY apart from all other synagogues in our area.

As your lay leadership, we are working hard to chart the best path forward for our community, which has changed significantly over the last several years. We have begun to develop a comprehensive strategic plan, but we need your help to achieve a living plan that meets our members' needs and desires. This does <u>not</u> only mean monetary support but also your thoughts, suggestions, needs, and desires. Your input is vital and necessary for MJCBY to grow and thrive into our next century.

Our board of directors understands that there is a limit to how many fundraising requests our members are prepared to consider, and that is why our 5784 campaign will be asking you to pledge for both Kol Nidre and the Education Fund together.

We are always available to speak or to answer questions if you would like more information. Please do not hesitate to call us or text us; our mobile numbers are listed below.

Thank you again for your consideration, your past support, and your future commitment and involvement. There's nothing to say you can't give more to KN as the year goes on.

B'shalom,

Irv Cohen & Sara Forman

Development Co-Chairs (973) 615-4488 (917) 273-6185

SHALOM YELADIM-THE JUDIE GERSTEIN EARLY LEARNING CENTER



Celebrating President's Day/Preparing for Purim! Becky Narli, Director

This month of February at Shalom Yeladim has been quite frosty and many of our themes and projects are related to weather. Our classrooms are filled with

dangling snowflakes, winter garb, and books about the season. We also have been learning about the

Presidents in honor of Presidents Day, building log cabins, and learning about the White House.

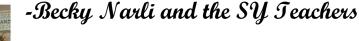




We also have a new music teacher, Annette Steele of *Music Time Today*, who comes weekly, sings, and plays instruments with the children. The children are really enjoying her classes! Next month, Purim will bring a lot of fun and celebrations, and Shalom Yeladim will be busy preparing for the holiday. Michelle Nulman is back for 2 weeks to help SY, and our Twos and New Twos are learning musical notes with Miss Annette.

Judy Diringer and Rabbi Adam stepped in to lead Shabbat in Cantor Shana's absence. This Shabbat celebration ended with a dance party!





Mommy & Me

For Babies up to 24 months and their caregivers

March 6, 13, 20, 27

Wednesday Mornings 9:30 – 10:30am

For more information, please email becky@mjcby.org | 973-538-8284

> OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY NO CHARGE

Shalom Yeladim - The Judie Gerstein Early Learning Center is offering 8 Weeks of Fun and Friends for ages 18 months - 4 years!

Beginning June 17, 2024

Hours: 9:00am to 12:30pm or 9:00am to 2:30pm before and after care may be available minimum of 3 children required

Nut free/Allergy friendly

Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael 177 Speedwell Avenue Morristown, NJ 07960 www.mjcby.org For more information call (973)538-8284 or email

becky@mjcby.org

MARCH CALENDAR

3/13	PICTURE DAY
3/22	PURIM
3/29-4/5	SPRING BREAK

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



Tu B'Shvat, Havdalah Pyjama Party, JDAIM Pancake Breakfast, and RS in Action!

Miriam Loew, Director



Our annual Tu B'Shvat Seder led by Cantor Shana and Rabbi Gillman was educational, interactive, delicious, and fun!



Our K-2 families enjoyed a Havdalah Pyjama Party. Cantor Shana led us in a musical Havdalah, we listened to a Havdalah story with Morah Jess, enjoyed hot chocolate and snacks in our PJ's, decorated candle holders & spice kits, and got to take beautiful Havdalah candles home!



We marked JDAIM (Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month) with a delicious pancake breakfast that was organized and cooked by Debbie Goldstein and our Religious School's Board of Ed and volunteers. Our former RS student Dan Milich spoke about life with a disability and left us all with much food for thought. Our Rishona Noa Akiva highlighted the challenges and disabilities that so many Israelis are facing as a result of terrorism and war and led us in an interactive activity.

YOUTH SHABBAT

MINYONAIRES (Ages 12+) Saturday, March 2nd at 9:30am

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

3rd – 7th Grade Saturday, March 16th 10:30am ALP: For Teens Grades 8-12

Megillah Outtakes Monday, March 4th 6:30-8:30pm - dinner included

For more information, please email miriam@MJCBY.org

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL IN ACTION!





















BAR MITZVAH - ARI CHARM



With love and joy, Joshua and Marci Charm proudly welcome the congregation to celebrate with them on Saturday, March 9th, 2024, when their son, Ari, is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah.

Ari is a seventh-grade honor student at Randolph Middle School. He enjoys music and plays percussion in the seventh-grade band, percussion ensemble, and sings in the choir. Outside of school, Ari enjoys playing piano, juggling, and acting in community theatre, where he has enjoyed several leading roles. He also loves cooking and baking, creating his own "Survivor" challenges and puzzles, and snuggling his dog, Maizey. Ari

spends his summers at URJ Eisner Camp in the Berkshires, where he loves hanging out with his friends.

For his Bar Mitzvah project, Ari chose to honor his paternal great-grandmother by learning her story of survival during the Holocaust. Ari feels it is important to learn his own family's history so that he can pass it down to future generations. He was inspired to do this after watching his mother complete a speaker training program as a 3rd generation (3G) descendent of a Holocaust survivor. Ari hopes to help his mother retell his great-grandmother's story in area Holocaust education programs and eventually become a 4th generation (4G) speaker himself. Learning about the Holocaust is not an easy subject matter, but Ari understands the importance of Holocaust education to combat anti-Semitism, especially after the events of October 7th.

We would like to express our gratitude to Rabbi Gillman, Cantor Shana, Miriam Loew, and Ari's religious school teachers, who have helped prepare him for his Bar Mitzvah. A special thank you is owed to all his teachers at Shalom Yeladim, where he began in the "Mommy and Me" class at just three months old! We are grateful for the many educational and Judaic experiences that Ari was fortunate to receive during his years at MJCBY. He looks forward to continuing to be a participant in this wonderful community.

We are thrilled with Ari's commitment and dedication in preparing for his Bar Mitzvah, and we can't wait to share this important milestone with Ari's sister, Ellie, his grandparents, and the rest of our family and friends.

B'NAI MITZVAH RETREAT



JEWISH YOUNG COMMUNITY OF NEW JERSEY (JYC)

Nathan Vaisbort jycnewjersey@gmail.com or (862) 217-4942, Chair Jacob Levy, Writer/Editor

Shabbat Dinner

On Friday, March 15th, JYC will be having Purim Shabbat dinner at MJCBY! Services will begin at 6:15pm, followed by dinner at 7:15pm. Free spots are filled up, register on OneTable for \$18 by Wednesday, March 13th. New members are always welcome to attend!

Hamantaschen Baking

Ready to become a Hamantaschen pro? Join JYC for an exclusive Young Professionals (21-39ish) only event at MJCBY on Wednesday, March 20th, 2024, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm! Sign up online: https://morristownjewishcenter.shulcloud.com/event/jyc-hamantaschen-bake.html

JYC Monthly Book Club!

It's not too late to join JYC's membership exclusive book club! Each month, avid book lovers gather virtually for fun-filled discussions. Please email <u>heathersloan799@gmail.com</u> for more information.

Stay Up to Date

Be sure to follow JYC on Facebook, Meetup, WhatsApp, and its website for news about upcoming events.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Office Volunteers Needed!

MJCBY is looking for additional volunteers to help cover the office during absences or to help during peak times (think High Holy Days). This is a great opportunity to do a mitzvah that doesn't require a regular time commitment so it can fit into your schedule. We have a small crew who have been pitching in, but it would really help to have a bigger roster. Your presence here helps keep the synagogue office open for business!

Shifts are *usually* 9:00-12:30 and 12:30-4:00. You only have to answer the phone and let people in. There's even a cheat sheet with all the info you need to know. It's a great way to meet fellow members or even see old friends!

If you're interested in volunteering, please let me know. You can email me at <u>rgotfried@gmail.com</u>.

Thanks,

Rita Gotfried

LIFELONG LEARNING



February was busy!

Miriam Loew, Director

TGIS, Centennial Shabbat, Israeli Dancing, USY Chopped Rugelach, Better Together and Keshet kept us very busy in the month of February! See pictures with captions below!



purple!

YELLOW SHABBAT IN JANUARY - We dressed in yellow, brought our favorite yellow toys, ate yellow foods, got to enjoy yellow activities and took home yellow prizes. Join us on March 15 for Purple Shabbat!



PINK SHABBAT IN FEBRUARY - We dressed in pink, brought our favorite pink toys, ate pink foods, got to enjoy pink activities and took home pink prizes. Join us on March 15 for Purple Shabbat!



OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY - NO CHARGE QUESTIONS? MIRIAM@MJCBY.ORG



BETTER TOGETHER -Students visited Lester and played a game of Tell & Kvell. We got to meet three people over 100 years old, including a Siberia survivor! We heard many fascinating life stories and can't wait for our next visit!



JOIN US FOR USY & BETTER TOGETHER ON MARCH 3rd & 24th!



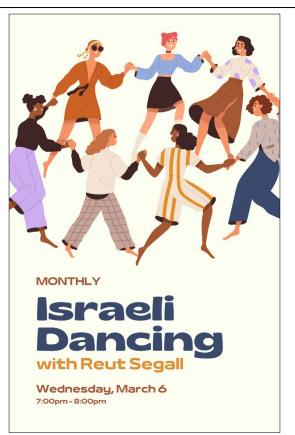
USY CHOPPED, RUGELACH EDITION - USY met for a fun afternoon of Chopped - Rugelach edition! Thank you to Rabbi Nesson and Cantor Shana for acting as judges and taste testing the baked goods!



CENTENNIAL SHABBAT - MJCBY proudly participated in Centennial Shabbat! Thanks to a generous grant by the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest, more than 60 people enjoyed a delicious Shabbat dinner together. Our own Rebecca Gold spoke about Federation's important work in the area as we celebrated 100 years of Jewish life in our area!



ISRAELI DANCING - Monthly Israeli dancing with Reut Segall is off to a great start. Come join our next session on March 6!!!





KESHET - We are proud to be a part of the Keshet Cohort. Together with professionals in the LGBTQ+ field we are currently working on a number of ways to ensure that all people walking through our doors are welcomed and celebrated for who they are!

SISTERHOOD NEWS & EVENTS

MARJORIE ELKIND SISTERHOOD BOOK GROUP

The next book is called THE MEASURE by Nikki Erlick. This is a thought-provoking book which guarantees a great conversation. The book is widely available. We will meet on Wednesday March 27th. Start reading now. For more info, please contact Amy Brunswick at abrunswick4321@gmail.com

JOIN SISTERHOOD FOR 2023-2024 YEAR

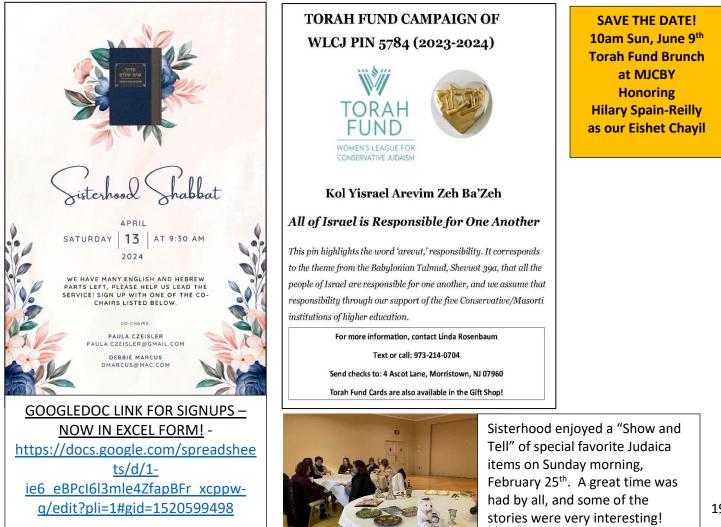
If you have not joined the Sisterhood yet, we encourage you to do so. Your \$36 membership donation supports our Synagogue and the Women's League for Conservative Judaism and provides us with the opportunity to offer educational and fun community building events. Send a check payable to MJCBY Sisterhood, and you'll be able to take part in all of the fun and exciting events we offer!

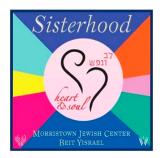
KIDDUSH COMMITTEE

The **Kiddush Committee** needs your help to prepare the kiddush luncheon each week. Please contact Dorothy Cohen (dorothy_irvingcohen@msn.com) for more info.

BECOME A KIDDUSH SPONSOR

Share a special occasion with us by becoming a KIDDUSH SPONSOR. To donate, send your check made out to: MJCBY Kiddush, Attn: Kiddush Fund, 177 Speedwell Ave, Morristown, NJ 07960. Please include the occasion and your honoree! Questions? Email Dorothy irvingcohen@msn.com





MJCBY Sisterhood Needs You Do more than just belong... Get involved!

Volunteering to get involved with the Sisterhood Board is a great way to make new friends, collaborate on events, learn something new and have a fun time building a strong future for MJCBY. What better way to support your MJCBY community than to use your special talents and get involved with our MJCBY Sisterhood Board.

Take a look at the various opportunities outlined below and see if something strikes your fancy and where you can make a contribution.

Sisterhood Board Positions and Committees:

- **President** Elected person officially in charge of our Sisterhood. (Dorothy will be stepping down at the end of this year, so we need someone to step up.)
- **Membership** Encourage members to join Sisterhood. Organize New Member dinner with a committee.
- **Treasurer** Maintain the financial records for Sisterhood.
- Financial Secretary Track Sisterhood membership for Women's League.
- Recording Secretary Take minutes at Sisterhood board meetings.
- Corresponding Secretary Write congratulatory or comfort notes to members.
- **Publicity** Create and distribute engaging Sisterhood materials.
- **Torah Fund** Encourage donations for Women's League for Conservative Judaism and organize the Torah Fund brunch.
- Parliamentarian Advise Sisterhood on parliamentary by-laws and procedures.
- High Holiday Fundraiser Coordinate this fundraiser with a committee.
- **Programming** Plan and publicize exciting programs for Sisterhood.
- **College Liaison** Prepare and mail goody packages to college students.
- Flower Fund Order Bimah flowers for specific holidays.
- Sisterhood Shabbat Organize the annual Sisterhood members Shabbat service.
- Book Club Organize the monthly Sisterhood book club meetings.
- **Outreach** Keep track of Sisterhood board meeting "good and welfare" donations.
- Judaica Gift Shop Help organize and support gift shop sales.

It's a Mitzvah! Join the Sisterhood Board to continue the tradition of supporting Sisterhood and MJCBY. All of our fundraising efforts, including the Judaica Gift Shop, support MJCBY.

For more information, please contact: Dorothy Cohen 973-361-4338 <u>dorothy_irvingcohen@msn.com</u>

Support Your Sisterhood... Support Your Shul

Sisterhood JUDAICA GIFT SHOP

OPEN SUNDAYS 9:30-11:30AM DURING RELIGIOUS SCHOOL WEEKDAYS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT GIFTSHOP@MJCBY.ORG

OR CONTACT SHARON BARKAUSKAS - 201-874-8744 JANET APPELBAUM - 973-886-0702 IVY RUBIN - 973-781-0844 KIM SYNALOVSKI - 973-714-7636 VIVIAN LASKA - 973-714-6489

177 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960 (973) 538-9292

Did you Know???



Your MJCBY Sisterhood Judaica Shop has everything you need to celebrate all Life Cycle Events, Holidays, and Simchas.

We can take the stress out of preparing for a special event by:

Ordering Customized Kippot, Clips, Lace Head Covers, and we have beautiful handmade Kippot for family members.

We carry a full line of Tallit for men and women, and especially for the B'nai Mitzvah student.

Gift Certificates are available.

PURIM AT THE SHOP

The story of Purim is told in the Book of Esther ("Megillah") and takes place Saturday night, March 23rd and continues through Sunday, March 24th. It takes place in ancient Persia following the destruction of the first Holy Temple. Wicked Haman convinces King Ahasuerus to have the Jews killed. Encouraged by her cousin Mordechai, Queen Esther, the king's unwilling wife, risks her life to intercede on her people's behalf.

How is Purim Celebrated?

- Telling and hearing the story of Purim
- Sending gifts of food and drink to loved ones and friends-Mishloach Manot
- Giving to those in need
- Indulge in festive meals and rowdy parties stomping feet and making lots of noise



Stop by the Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop for Purim goodies!

Inflatable Hammers Purim Cookie Cutters Assorted Groggers Make Your Own Purim Mask Kit Queen Esther Crown Purim Puppets



Find all of our gift shop catalogues online at https://www.mjcby.org/support/gift-shop/

SUPPORT YOUR SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP – SUPPORT YOUR SHUL!

MJCBY Men's Book Club

We meet at 7:30pm. If you are interested in joining us, please contact howardbuxbaum@gmail.com

March 6th	The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride
April 3rd	All Other Nights by Dara Horn
May 1st	All the Sinners Bleed by SA Cosby
June 5th	TBD

GOOD & WELFARE

MAZEL TOV TO:

Sarah Neibart on her appointment as the Mayor of Mendham Sarah Neibart and Josh Barer on the birth of their daughter, Sheila Evie "Sevie" Barer, and to the proud grandparents Steven and Kathy Neibart and Sol and Meri Barer

CONDOLENCES TO:

Stewart Jaslove on the passing of his beloved sister, Jeri Bunnell

REFUAH SHLEMA TO:

Flo Sager, Meryl Balaban, Debbie Brody, Cookie & Morton Wertheimer, Lisa Pollak, Joan Cohen, Steve Neibart, Sharon Kellman, Joyce Litchman, Jeff Czeisler, Sue Jacobowitz, Ron Saltzman, Rabbi David Nesson, Joel & Ginger Beecher, Linda Rosenbaum, Richard Rubenstein, Tom Schofield, Meredith Charak, Michael & Karen Gooen, Larry Levin, Rhea Attias

I would like to thank Rabbi Nesson, Cantor Shana, Rabbi Gillman and Cantor Attias and all of the congregants who have wrapped their loving arms around me and my family on the loss of my beloved husband Joe. Your phone calls, notes, emails and visits have comforted me and my family at this difficult time.

Gratefully, Flo Sager and Family

SOCIAL ACTION

Community Mitzvah Day is April 7th!

Lou Bodian & Howard Buxbaum, Social Action Chairs Loub48@Gmail.com - HowardBuxbaum@Gmail.com

Please join us for Mitzvah Day at MJCBY on April 7th at 11 AM. Last year's event was a great success, and we hope you will join us this year.

Under the Metrowest Federation umbrella we are again having a Mitzvah Day event that includes activities for children and adults that will provide assistance to low-income residents of nearby communities. We have partnered with nourish.NJ, Table of Hope, Project Readiness and Homeless Solutions for this program.

The activities for Mitzvah Day include:

- Assembly of breakfast bags that provide morning nutrition
- Assembly of backpacks for pre-k HeadStart children
- Assembly of bags containing personal care items
- Sorting of items requested by our partner agencies (please see below).

We are asking families to donate \$36 which will offset the cost of the pre-k backpacks and other supplies. Please send checks to the MJCBY Office and note the check is for Mitzvah Day. Also, please select one, two or three items from the list below and bring your donated items to MJCBY on Mitzvah Day! These items will benefit clients from various local social service agencies.

shampoo/body wash hand soap laundry pods toilet tissue paper towels toothbrushes/toothpaste new white t-shirts new socks bed sheets (new) bath towels (new) kitchen towels (new) full size foil pans disposable forks & knives

new plastic grocery bags (available at places like Costco) 1 or 3 compartment to go containers 6x6 clamshell to go containers snack size, sandwich size or quart size zipper bags of any brand disposable cups with lids 18 inch shrink wrap napkins 45-65 gallon trash bags ground coffee reusable grocery bags

Any questions, please contact Lou Bodian (<u>loub48@gmail.com</u>) or Howard Buxbaum (howardbuxbaum@gmail.com)

We thank you in advance for your participation!

ADULT ED – Irene Frielich on Feb 4







Photo credit: "Lew Stone, page 257" [that's the page in the book that mentions Julie and me] [maybe it will spur folks to buy her book so see what that means]





Community Mitzvah Day

Sunday, April 7 11:00am

Activities:

- Assembling Breakfast Bags for NourishNJ
- Assembling backpacks for HeadStart students
- Collecting nonperishable food and cleaning supplies.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 | ACTIVITIES BEGIN 11AM

RSVP TO HOWARD BUXBAUM OR LOU BODIAN

Howardbuxbaum@gmail.com Loub48@gmail.com

We have activities for

all ages (coloring and

decorating paper bags

for the youngest kids)

<u>SAVE THE DATE – APRIL</u> <u>EVENTS - & PASSOVER</u>

Celebrate the 60th anniversary of our Holocaust Scroll

MEMORIAL SCROLLS TRUST (MST)

NYC SCROLL GATHERING

Sunday, April 7th, 2024 at 3pm Temple Emanu-El 1 E. 65th Street (at 5th Ave), NYC

Registration required

Questions? Email Loisroman17egmail.com

Want an active role? Contact Rabbi Gillman

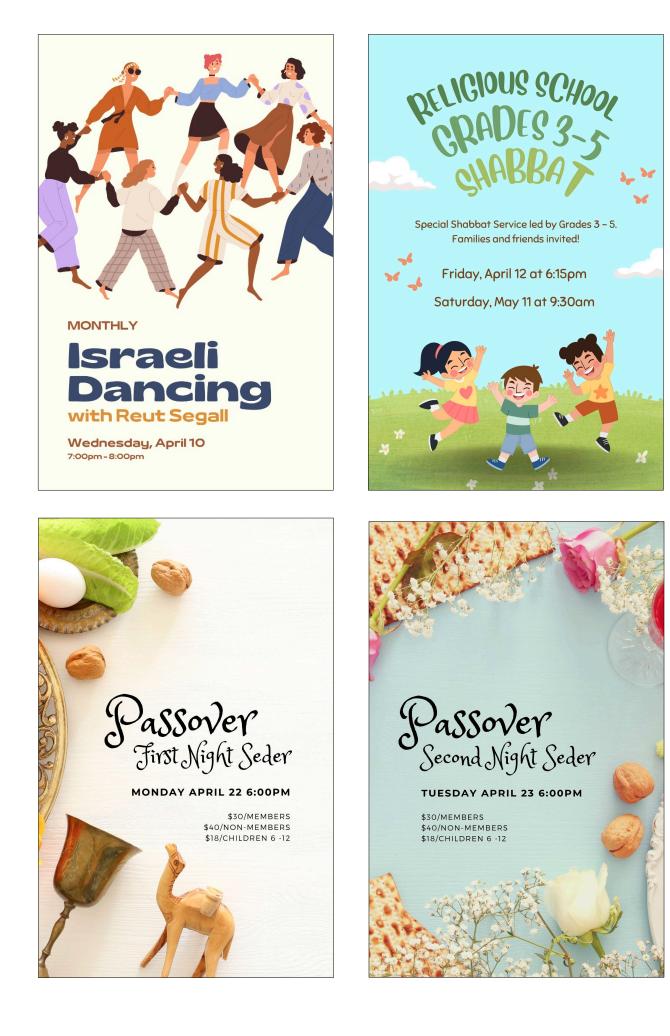
Join us as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Czech (Holocaust Torah) scrolls! To learn more about the history of The Czech Memorial Scrolls, click here: https://memorialscrollstrust.org/

ALL ATTENDEES MUST PRE-REGISTER: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mst-nycscroll-gathering-tickets-807650373007?aff=oddtdtcreator

* This event will be recorded but not streamed live.

WANT TO CARPOOL? EMAIL RABBI GILLMAN.

25



INCLUSION COMMITTEE

At MJCBY, we pride ourselves in being an inclusive and welcoming Jewish community. Feeling that each of us has a place to belong and contribute to community is key to wanting to be more involved. We are doing a great job, but we also know that there are ways in which we can do better. We are taught, "Lo alecha hamlacha ligmor, v'lo atah ben chorin l'hivatel mimena" – "You are not expected to complete the task, but neither are you free to avoid it." (Rabbi Tarfon, Pirkei Avot 2:21) As we continue to grow and expand our programming to best meet the needs of our community, we are seeking your input to better understand how we move forward.

We are developing an Inclusion Committee to explore the ways in which we can better engage and meet the needs of all members of our community, with an initial focus on disability and LGBTQ+ communities. We will begin by developing 2 small working groups focused on addressing these areas. If you are interested in participating in either group, please contact Becca Wanatick at <u>rwanatick@gmail.com</u>.

CONTRIBUTIONS (Jan 31st through Feb 23rd)

Building Renovation Fund

- Irv & Dorothy Cohen in memory of Neil Cohen.
- Martin & Joan Cohen in memory of Dorothy Cohen.
- Bea Mintz in memory of Max Mintz.
- Alan & Kay Salzman in memory of Joe Sager.

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

- Mark Furman & Michele Kriegman in memory of father's yahrzeit.
- Flo Sager to thank Rabbi Nesson, Rabbi Gillman, Cantor Shana, Cantor Attias, and Dorothy Cohen.

Chevra Kadisha Fund

• Peter & Adele Black in memory of uncle Henry Katz.

Education Endowment Fund

- Eileen Glasser
- IN MEMORY OF JOE SAGER from – David Cohen, Martin & Joan Cohen, Gary Drucker, Elliot & Dorothy Fox, William & Julie Lupatkin, Jay & Ivy Rubin, and Barry & Ricki Sokol.

Frigand Minyonaires & Israel Experience Fund

 Sydney Levit in memory of Pauline Green. Richard & Bonnie Weiss in memory of Helen Jacobs

Gemilut Hasadim Society

 Alan & Adrienne Chanin in memory of Harriette Linn Binik.

General Donation

- Steve Lipsky & Rachel Richman in memory of Joe Sager.
- Martin & Joan Cohen in memory of Ethel Goldblatt.
- Ruth Van Vort in memory of William Toffel.

Shalom Yeladim

• Steve Lipsky & Rachel Richman in memory of Howard Tozar.

FUNDS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO: Alex Csillag Memorial Fund, Building Renovation Fund, Cantor's Discretionary Fund, Cantor's Shabbat Dinner Fund, Chevra Kadisha, Education Endowment Fund, Frigand Minyonaires & Israel Experience Fund, Gemilut Hasadim (Caring Committee) Fund, General Donation, History Fund, Jewish Young Community (JYC), Kiddush Fund, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Shalom Yeladim Nursery School Fund, and Social Action Fund.

MARCH YAHRZEITS

To Be Remembered Sh	abbat Mar 1 & 2
3/2/2024 22 Adar	Ronald Certner
5/2/2024 22 Audi	Elias Cooper
	Doris Greenberg*
	Janet Juros
2/2/2024/22 Adam	Goldie Schleifstein
3/3/2024 23 Adar	Pauline Israel*
	Gilbert Kahn
2/4/2024 24 4 4- 0	Simon Oppenheimer
3/4/2024 24 Adar	Harry Cohn
	Janet Dorros
	Seymour Felsenfeld
	Benjamin Golden*
	Clarice Jaslove
	Sophie Simon*
	Israel Steinberg
3/5/2024 25 Adar	Robert Bellings*
	Max Dunn
	Jean Geller
	Jacob Green
	Alexander Krupnick
	Selma Oppenheimer
3/6/2024 26 Adar	Alfred Baum
	Herman J. Frigand*
	Edward Gordon*
	Helen Jacobowitz*
	Hyman Leichter
	Alter Pincow
3/7/2024 27 Adar	Helen Abraham*
	Abraham Becker
	Lillian Pomerantz
	Henry Sager
	Arthur Singer
3/8/2024 28 Adar	Edward Doan Beslow
	David Furman*
	Irving Isko*
To Be Remembered Sh	abbat Mar 8 & 9
3/9/2024 29 Adar	Sylvia Gesser Meyers
	Barbara Grandis
	Jerome Krinsky
	Abraham Morgenstern
3/11/2024 1 Adar II	Celia Brender*
	Charles Feldman*
3/12/2024 2 Adar II	Jennifer Milich
3/13/2024 3 Adar II	Jerry Bernstein
	Minnie Goldstein
	l
	Helen Jacobs
	Helen Jacobs Morris Schachtel
3/15/2024 5 Adar II	Morris Schachtel
3/15/2024 5 Adar II	Morris Schachtel
3/15/2024 5 Adar II	Morris Schachtel Isaac Israel*
3/15/2024 5 Adar II	Morris Schachtel Isaac Israel* Ruth Markiewietz

		bbat Mar 15 & 16	
3/20/2024	10 Adar II	Simon Goldmann	
		Miriam Devorah Horwitz	
3/21/2024	11 Adar II	Dorothy Feuerstein	
		Estelle Rosenberg*	
3/22/2024	12 Adar II	Abraham Leon*	
To Be Remem	bered Sha	bbat Mar 22 & 23	
3/23/2024	13 Adar II	Maurice Brenman*	
		David Chasin	
		Fred Markel	
3/24/2024	14 Adar II	Jacob Frankel	
		Frieda Glasser	
		Barbara Hoffman	
		Rose Isko*	
3/27/2024	17 Adar II	Samuel Haimann*	
		James Kaplan*	
		Harold Siegel	
3/28/2024	18 Adar II	Suzanne Hackman	
		Evelyn Sidman*	
To Be Remem	bered Sha	bbat Mar 29 & 30	
3/30/2024	20 Adar II	Blair Beinhaker*	
		Reuben Leeb	
		Daniel Milich	
3/31/2024	21 Adar II	Gladys Lieberman	
		Yetta Lobel*	
		Donald Pantel	
		Harry Rubinson	
4/1/2024	22 Adar II	Rose Messinger*	
		Marvin Ticker	
		Erwin Widmann	
4/2/2024	23 Adar II	Marshall Sidman*	
		Maier Friedman	
		James Sibilia	
4/4/2024	25 Adar II		
*Denotes plaque on Yahrzeit wall			



Selling or Buying a Home? Choose the Right Realtor... The Rest is Easy! Call me today for a FREE Market Analysis of your home.

Sheryl Weine

GRI, Green Designation Weichert President's Club (Top 1%) NJ Distinguished Sales Club Residential & Luxury Property Specialist

RANDOLPH OFFICE

284 Route 10, Randolph, NJ 07869 cell: 973-769-5580 | office: 973-328-7800 sherylweine@hotmail.com | www.sherylweine.com



Eric S. Solotoff, Esq. Attorney at Law

Certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Matrimonial Law Attorney

Fellow – American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML)

Co-Chair of the Family Law Department

49 Market Street 973-994-7501 Morristown, NJ 07960 973-992-9125 (fax)

esolotoff@foxrothschild.com blog: njfamilylaw.foxrothschild.com

www.foxrothschild.com



Beth Israel Cemetery Association

Ridgedale Avenue, Cedar Knolls

Plots available for Congregation Members

For information call: **973-538-4606** Website: <u>www.bethisraelcemetery.com</u>

Opportunities for volunteers to help with flags for Memorial Day & Veterans Day

Cemetery is closed on the Sabbath



CHESTER WOODS PROFESSIONAL PARK 385 ROUTE 24, SUITE 3K • CHESTER, NJ 07930 (908) 879-2222







600 Speedwell Avenue Morris Plains, NJ 07950 973-539-3300

Christine M. Dangler, Mgr.-.N.J. Lic. No. 4706 Kip M. Dangler, Dir.- N.J. Lic. No. 3992

> James E. Dangler 1948 – 2005

Endocrine Consultants of Morris County

10 James Street Suite 140 Florham Park, NJ 07932 www.ecmcendo.com 973.665.8100





Sheera Siegel, MD, FACE, ECNU — Anna Kissin, MD, FACE, ECNU

