

Dateline

Tevet - Shevat 5779

HHBJC/Judith Lesnik Chesed Committee

Invites you to an informative presentation

AGING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Presented by Jordana Davidson LCSW

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 AT 10 AM IN MENCHEL HALL

Reservations Requested by January 2 \$10 donation collected at the door

January at HHBJC

January 6 Aging and Mental Health

January 7, 14, 21, 28 Adult Ed - Rabbi Wise Israeli Book Club

January 8, 15, 29 Adult Ed - Rabbi Kessler Caravan of Jewish Learning

January 9, 16, 23 Adult Ed - Cantor Zim Learn To Lead Services

> January 13 Mah Jongg Club

January 19 Simcha Shabbat

January 20 Tu B'Shvat Seder

January 30 Adult Ed - Cantor Zim Yiddish Club HHBJC Adult Education Presents



THE ZIONIST IDEAS AN ANTHOLOGY FROM GIL TROY

Join Rabbi Wise Monday evenings 8-9:30 PM January 7, 14, 21, 28 February 4, 11, 18, 25 March 4, 18 \$30 per book—call the office to reserve your copy



See Page 11 for removable monthly calendar of events and service times. January 2019

From the Desk of Rabbi David Wise Exile



We live in the most fortunate era of the last 2,000 years of Jewish history.

No one my age or younger knows what it feels like to be cut off from access to Jerusalem. No one under 70 has lived without the existential dreamcome-true of a sovereign Jewish State of Israel. And today, most of the Jews in the world either live in Israel or are free to move there, at least in theory.

These realities are worth mentioning frequently, lest we lose our appreciation for the miraculous times in which we live. It became more poignant to me upon reading *Until We Are Free*, the most recent book by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi, who fought for human rights in Iran for decades, but has lived in exile in London since 2009. The subject of exile is the focus of this edition of *The Rabbi's Nightstand*.

The author was one of Iran's first female judges, but she was stripped of her judicial title after the 1979 Islamic Revolution. She became a fierce advocate for human rights, especially for women and children. She

(Continued on page 4)

Shabbat Schedule



Friday, January 4, 2019 Candle Lighting 4:23 PM Mincha 4:25 PM Saturday, January 5, 2019 Vaera 9:00 AM 4:10 PM Mincha Havdalah 5:27 PM Friday, January 11, 2019 Candle Lighting 4:30 PM Mincha 4:30 PM Saturday, January 12, 2019 Bo 9:00 AM Mincha 4:15 PM 5:34 PM Havdalah Friday, January 18, 2019 Candle Lighting 4:38 PM 4:40 PM Mincha Saturday, January 19, 2019 Beshalach 9:00 AM Mincha 4:25 PM Havdalah 5:42 PM Friday, January 25, 2019 Candle Lighting 4:46 PM 4:50 PM Mincha Saturday, January 26, 2019 Yitro 9:00 AM Mincha 4:30 PM Havdalah 5:50 PM

A Men's Alfani Overcoat was mistakenly taken from the coat room one Shabbat, and another one left in it's place. If you have the wrong coat, please contact the office

We need your help with our daily Minyan.

Please join us mornings or evenings!

Monday & Thursday 6:45am & 7:30pm

Tuesday 7:00am & 7:30pm

Wednesday 8:00am & 7:30pm

Sunday & Legal Holidays 9:00am & 7:30pm

Friday Morning 7:00am

Rosh Chodesh 6:30am

Handicap Access

We have an operating handicapped lift. This is available for all who may need access to any level of the building. Please contact the center office to arrange for one of our staff to assist you in its operation. There is also a handicapped restroom located past the Menchel Social Hall. *The House Committee*

CENTER ADMINISTRATION

Rabbi David Wise Associate Rabbi Gary D. Kessler Rabbi Emeritus Dr. H. Joseph Simckes Cantor Sol Zim

Ohr Chadash Education Director Rabbi Dr. Boaz Tomsky Nursery School Director Robyn Rosenberg Ritual Director Gordon Goldman

> Presidium Arthur J. Liederman Joshua Sussman Natalie Winter **Executive Vice President** Eric Jacobowitz V.P. Engagement **Maris Blechner V.P. Financial Affairs Benjamin Grunfeld** Treasurer Joel Simon **Financial Secretary** Don Bieber V.P. Religious Life Dr. Benjamin Solomowitz V.P. Life Long Learning Seth Seidman Secretary Marilyn Teleky Joan Waxgiser

> > House Chairman Michael Borman

> > > Men's Club Neil Cohen Sisterhood

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Dateline is Published Monthly Check out HHBJC on the Internet http://www.hollishillsbaysidejc.org

The deadline for article and advertising submission is the 10th day of the preceding month. Dateline Editor: Nancy Morse; Please submit articles and letters to the editor via email to: <u>office@hollishillsjc.org</u> (Word or Publisher format is appreciated)

Notices

Do you receive emails from HHBJC including Rabbi Wise's weekly Shabbat notes? Contact the office to subscribe or subscribe on the homepage at www.hollishillsbaysidejc.org

If you are bringing pre packaged food into the Synagogue, please consult with Rabbi Wise.

Bereavement Support

The Bereavement Support Group meets the First and Third Monday night of the month at 7:30 PM with compassionate, caring, warm and concerned friendly people. Refreshments are always served and are complimentary. All faiths are welcome. Led by Marty Kevelson and Malka Lesnik Belgrod.



Our Cantor's Voice <u>HHBJC</u> <u>Happenings &</u> Save the Dates

5 Our HHBJC ANNUAL FAMILY/ COMMUNITY CHANUKAH **DINNER** was FANTABULOUS! The food was delicious with a great variety, something for everyone, from Fortune Glatt Kosher Chinese. I rarely eat Chinese food so it was a real treat for me. The desserts were also delicious, wonderful fresh fruit, parve ice cream sundaes and the best *sufganiot* I've had. We had a fabulous magician, face painting for kids and adults alike and of course we had a jellybean contest. I was thrilled to be there with our Rabbi David Wise and Rabbi Gary Kessler as we said the prayers together over the candles, made the Hamotzi and sang Chanukah songs together. We had over 100 people who attended. It was such a warm and fun way to celebrate with our community, family and friends! Let's all come again next year, as we continue our tradition together. Thank you to our dear Maris Blechner who was the overall chairperson. You are amazing as always! Thank you to Janet Hiller Jacobowitz for taking care of the arrangements for the wonderful food. Thank you to Amanda Menzie and her wonderful son Sam (who just recently became a Bar Mitzvah) who set up all the tables & music sheets with our Chanukah songs and grab bags. Great job!

I was planning to start our Learn to Daven & Yiddish Club classes in the spring but so many asked me to start them sooner so we will resume in JANUARY. Here are the DATES...

Our "LEARN TO LEAD SER-VICES (DAVEN)" class will take place on WEDNESDAYS at 8:00 PM in the MENCHEL HALL on the following dates: JANUARY 9th, JANUARY 16th, JANUARY 23^{rd.} All are welcome, come join us – bring a friend! I am so proud of how much you are all learning!

Our "YIDDISH CLUB CLASS" will resume on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30th at 8:00 PM in the MENCHEL HALL. ALL ARE WELCOME – COME JOIN US – BRING A FRIEND! Get ready to laugh and enjoy!

Another DATE TO SAVE...Our GALA CONCERT will take place on SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019 at 8:00 PM at the LE-FRAK CONCERT HALL at Queens College. Lincoln Center is coming to Queens! We will have a full symphony and I am thrilled that OFIR SOBOL (son of my dear friend MAES-TRO MORDECHAI SOBOL z'I) will be coming in from Israel to conduct the symphony.

Stay warm!

See you in shul.

Cantorially always,

Cantor Sol Zim

(Rabbi Wise Continued from page 1)

eventually learned that the Ministry of Intelligence was so fed up with her work that she had been placed on a list of targets for assassination. Her daughters were harassed, with one having her passport revoked briefly. Eventually, her husband was set up in a compromising position and forced to record a condemnation of his wife's work (and impugn her devotion to Islam).

Judge Ebadi was in Spain to deliver a lecture on freedom of expression when Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stole his 2009 reelection as Iranian president. Protesters were shot in the streets of Tehran, and she knew she could not safely return to Iran. "And this saddened me immensely. How was I going to be able to give up my Tehran? After all, I was someone who had stayed put in Iran even under the most difficult conditions...I was the one who had always been opposed when my friends chose to emigrate. I hadn't left Iran with the intention of staying away. I had left with only carry-on luggage" (p. 151).

When I read of Judge Ebadi's longing for her homeland, I thought of the Psalmist ("By the rivers of Babylon), or the medieval poet Yehuda Halevi's elegy for Jerusalem, or of the words of our prayers of lament. I thought of the strange custom of removing all knives from the table when reciting Burkat HaMazon, the blessing after a meal, so as not to give a Jew in

exile a weapon with which to harm himself when remembering Jerusalem from far away. "Some days, when the sun was setting, I imagined I heard the sound of the call to prayer, the azaan, as we say in Persian. I thought perhaps there was a local mosque, and I would search for it. But I soon realized there was none nearby; it had only been my mind producing the sounds of the familiar. Sometimes I would overhear people speaking in a shop and would think I'd picked up a scrap of Persian; but when I listened again, I was usually wrong. So I did the only thing I knew how to do: I worked harder...With work I could just manage, most of the time, to keep the darkness at bay" (152 -153)

When we Jews in America in the 21st century read a personal testimony of the pain of exile, we should have two uncomfortable reactions. The first is empathy for the human being experiencing dislocation. The second is self-reflection, for in our time, we are freely choosing Diaspora. Without diminishing our happiness here, let's at least acknowledge that we're lucky to have that choice.

Wishing you a safe, healthy, and meaningful New Year of 2019.

Rabbi David Wise

Grocery Gelt

Shoprite All Locations

Stop & Shop: All Locations

Dan's Keyfood: 73rd Ave./ Bell Blvd. 105-02 Queens Blvd.

Danny's Drive In Cleaners: 190-05 Union Turnpike

Fairway Supermarket: 242-02 61st Avenue, Douglaston



Daily Service Schedule

Monday & Thursday 6:45am & 7:30pm

Tuesday 7:00am & 7:30pm

Wednesday 8:00am & 7:30pm

Sunday & Legal Holiday 9:00am & 7:30pm

Friday Morning 7:00am

Rosh Chodesh 6:30am

Shabbat Mornings 9:00am

- The next few months are a ********** time for many joyful occa-★ sions: weddings, engage-
- ments, B'nai Mitzvah, etc.
- It's just the right time to sponsor a *Kiddush* after
- Saturday services and
- $\hat{\star}$ share your simcha with the
- Temple family! Call the of-
- ᄎ fice and confirm your date. 📩
- *****

Rabbi's Reflections Associate Rabbi Gary D. Kessler <u>The Four Faces of</u> <u>Tu B'Shevat</u>



We are a peculiar people, scheduling our nature festival in the dead of

winter. But Tu B'Shevat, the festival of trees and their fruit. didn't start out as a Jewish Earth Day, or even Arbor Day. And while the almond trees usually do clothe Israeli hillsides with white and pink blossoms at this time of year, the day isn't about aesthetic nature appreciation. A closer look at the varied "incarnations" of this minor holiday through history reveals four facets of our interdependence with trees and the natural world to contemplate and to celebrate.

The Economic:

We derive physical sustenance from nature, quantifiable in economic terms. Up through Mishnaic times, Tu B'Shevat, the 15th of the Hebrew month of Shevat, was comparable to "Tu B'April" for Americans — a date relevant to calculation of taxes. The exact middle of winter was chosen as the end of the arboreal fiscal year: tithes on fruit after this date belonged to the next year. So the *Mishnah* in Tractate Rosh Hashanah labels it "the New Year of the Trees."

The Israelites didn't sweat over tax forms, though, worrying about getting a check to some priestly IRS. Economics and spirituality, environment and society, were more integrated: part of the fruitful bounty received from G-D via trees was **'returned to G-D'** via the priests and the Temple, while part was redistributed to care for the poor.

After the Exile, with no trees of our own to tithe, the date's significance waned. Like a tree, the holiday remained dormant blooming again over a millennium later. The midrashic inclination of the Jewish people couldn't let the idea of a **"new year for trees,"** with all of its metaphoric potential, wither away without transformation and reinterpretation.

The Spiritual:

The natural world is the ground of our spiritual lives, source of symbolism and meaning. The kabbalists therefore gave Tu Bishvat a second efflorescence. They taught of the cosmic Tree of the Sefirot, the divine emanations, conceived as no less than the blueprint for the creation of the world and a map of the mind of G-D.

The *Tu B'Shevat seder* was born of their innovative ritual creativity. Like the *Pesach seder*, this festive meal centered on four cups of wine and symbolic foods. But here, the wine progresses from white to red, symbolizing quiescence to full flowering, or masculine to feminine. And the foods eaten at this uniquely vegan Jewish feast are all fruits – from those with thick peels or pits, symbolizing gross physicality, through pure unprotected fruit such as figs, suggesting a more spiritual realm. The wines and fruits signify the four worlds or levels of creation in kabbalistic thought, often labeled as the physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual.

The National-Political:

The particular landscapes of our homelands are a source of collective memory, identity and expression. With the Zionist return to the land, *Tu B'Shevat* was transformed yet again. In a new act of itual creativity, Jewish schoolteachers of pre-state Palestine made *Tu B'shevat* a day of tree planting, a festival of reforestation efforts, re-rooting and reconnecting to land and landscape.

Today, tree planting, in person or by proxy, remains the most prevalent observance of **Tu B'Shevat.** Though trees have unfortunately become a political pawn in the national struggles over this land, with aggressive plantings and uprootings taking place on both sides, the visceral significance of actually rooting a tree in the soil establishes an undeniable physical connection with the land.

The Ecological:

We are part of an interconnected, inter-dependent universal web of life. Universalizing this connection leads directly to the latest metamorphosis: *Tu B'Shevat* as Jewish Earth Day. Building on the activism of the Zionists, the day has

Sisterhood

SISTERHOOD UPDATE

The weather may be getting cold, but the Sisterhood is filled with lots of upcoming activities to keep us warm - and having fun!

Early in March we plan to be co -sponsoring an evening with Men's Club - inviting back the Maine Rebbetzin, a wonderful comedienne, along with her klezmer-musician husband. March 10th we have coffee, bagels, and challah baking. March 17th is our extraspecial Purim Basket set-up, and we give those baskets out on March 20th, after the Megil-Watch for a lah reading. "Getting To Know You" event late in March or early in April. Then on May 19th come and learn from world-famous Kosher Chef Paula Shoyer. Last, but far from least, we will have a twosession "Make Your Own Tallit" event.

Please mark your calendar. We want everyone to be part of the fun!

HHBJC - Sisterhood Gift Shop

A Torah Fund Tradition

With thanks to Lenore Hanau and the Sisterhood of Oak Hills, we now have a bunch of lovely traditional Torah Fund cards Sympathy, Mazel available: Tov, Get Well Soon, and Thinking of You. If you need any of these, Sisterhood will be happy to sell some to you. They are four dollars for one, six dollars for two, eight dollars for three, and ten dollars for four. They have already been purchased from Torah Fund, so the check would be made out to our Sisterhood. Sometimes sending a card the old fashioned way has special meaning to the receiver.

Green Committee

THANK YOU FOR CARING

Because of the kindness of our members, there are between fifty and one hundred New Yorkers in need who will have a warm coat this winter. Once again, our New York Cares coat drive was a success.

Because we alternate between coats and food, next year we will most likely be collecting canned goods and dry food. However, there is a box at the 211th Street entrance to collect food all year. You don't have to wait until next December.

Todah Rabbah from the Green Team!



Queens Village Chit Chat 'Bout This & That By Sue Heppenheimer

We have just about entered another New Year, One we hope will bring us good health & a life full of cheer, As we grow older & our families expand,

Let us be grateful that life's dreams come true as we planned!

We want to wish a very Happy Birthday to Dr. Richard Kops. Also best wishes to other members of QVJC who will celebrate the day during the month.

We hope that Jenna Pitkow & Erin Pitkow will have wonderful trips that they will be undertaking, & come back home sharing all their adventures with family & friends.

Congratulations to the son of Carol & Mark Reiss on his recent award.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year.

Please visit our Facebook Page at

https://www.facebook.com/ hollishillsbaysidejc/

Find us on:

facebook.

JUDITH LESNIK CHESED COMMITTEE

Dear friends,

As we begin 2019 I hope this brief bit of information finds you well.

On January 6, in Menchel Hall, Jordana Davidson, LCSW from Samuel Field Y spoke about Mental Health and Wellness. I appreciate Linda Liederman for making this connection. If you were able to attend, I hope you found it informative.

Currently, I've been in touch with Rabbi Steven Glazer who is known for his work in curating ideas to help the "caregiver."

Some may be taking care of loved ones or will be, in the future. Be on the lookout for Rabbi Glazer who will be speaking at HHBJC. Date to be announced.

Lastly, I hope you are well during these winter months.

Warmly,

Laura Brodsky

We now have a list of members who will help give rides to doctor's appointments during the week and to synagogue on Saturday morning. If anyone needs help please contact the synagogue office. If anyone else is interested in signing up to help, please contact the office.

Cut Out and Save Contact Information (in confidence): Leave or Send a Message to Our Support Lines

> To Reach the Congregational Nurse Linda Liederman, R.N. Phone: 718-776-3500 Ext. 201

> > Email:

lliederman@hollishillsbaysidejc.org

For Rabbi Wise: Enter Extension 107 Or: rabbiwise@hollishillsbaysidejc.org

Chesed Committee Chair Laura Brodsky: Ibrodsky@hollishillsbaysidejc.org

7



H2I Youth Director News

Jennifer Gold

Dear Congregants,

First off, I would like to thank you all for such a warm and wonderful welcome to your community. As the new H2I Youth Director, I am looking forward to meeting more of you while in this honorable position.

So far, I have been lucky enough to spend a lot of time with our youth members. Through these next few months, I plan on creating and executing meaningful programs that are interwoven with Jewish ideals, morals and values.

My next steps are to spread H2I more deeply into the community. Community service and social action are two values that are of the utmost importance, especially within our beautiful religion. So look out! I might be reaching out to you to participate with us while we go out into the community around us.

Our new calendar will be available soon.

If any questions arise, please feel free to reach out at any time at my email H2IYouth@H2Iyouthgroup.org

Thank you,

Jen Gold

<u>Ohr Chadash News</u> Ohr Chadash Celebrates Chanukah

We had so much fun celebrating the holiday of Chanukah at Ohr Chadash. Each of the students made beautiful, colorful Menorahs just in time for the for the first night of Chanukah. Some of the students had the opportunity to make hand painted dreidels as well. Morah Shari and her brother Paul were busy making delicious Chanukah treats with the students including scrumptious chocolates and potato latkes. Some of our older students displayed their cooking skills as they fried tons of delicious latkes for all to enjoy. The children were so happy to share their hard work with their parents as they came and celebrated together at the end of Hebrew school. Rabbi FryerBodzin, Rabbi Kogan and Rabbi Wise enhanced and elevated the celebration of Chanukah with the students. Each child was given a box of Chanukah candles and delicious Chanukah gelt to bring home at the end of the day. On the following week, each student enjoyed delicious Sufganiot-donuts and milk at the end of Hebrew school. Most importantly, we were touched to see the amount of children that brought to Hebrew school, unwrapped presents for the Chai Lifeline Toy Drive. We are so proud that our Ohr Chadash children understand the importance and beauty of giving to others, increasing Tikun Olam and making this world a kinder place for us all to live. Kol Hakavod to all those who participated in this most worthy and noble cause.

Rabbi Tomsky



Remember Our Synagogue Operating Funds

HHBJC General Fund Etta Strassfeld Life Long Learning & Continuing Education Fund Rev. Frank Strassfeld Synagogue & Ritual Beautification Fund Judith Lesnik Chesed Fund Lena Schwartz Youth Fund Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Rabbi Kessler's Fund Cantor's Choir Fund Samuel Schneider Building Fund Kiddush Fund Gerald M. Misher Memorial Fund Harold J. Ross Memorial Environmental Fund

Nichum Avelim

MAY G-D GRANT CONSOLATION TO THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED A LOSS IN THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES:

Shirley Solomowitz, beloved mother of Benjamin Solomowitz

MAY THEY BE COMFORTED AMONG THE OTHER MOURNERS OF ZION AND JERUSALEM

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Rosemarie Singer In memory of Franklyn Geltman Marilyn & Alan Geltman

In memory of Anna Rabinowitz Adrienne & Jan Glaubiger

In memory of Israel Goldstein Rosalie & Stephen Roseman In memory of Irving O. Lasner Barry M. Lasner

In memory of Sam Schefren Rita Plush

In memory of Lillian Sackett Marcy & Jeff Sackett

In memory of Dorothy Goldberg In memory of Morris Goldberg Leslie Wapnitsky *In memory of Joseph Kaye* Renee Sklar & Family

In memory of Karen Soifer Manuel Soifer

In memory of Fanny Axelrad Beate Axelrad

In memory of Alvin Gerhardt Linda & Steven Silverman

Wishing Refuah Shelemah to Sharon Apelbaum's Mom Suzanne & Nathan Heilweil

In memory of David Zitofsky Michelle & Neil Zitofksy

In memory of Shirley Rosenthal Anne Rosenthal Andrew Rosenthal

In memory of Sydney Zaro Stephanie Zaro

In memory of Jack E. Bagon Andrew Bagon

In memory of President George Herbert Walker Bush Suzanne & Nathan Heilweil

In memory of Shirley Solomowitz Suzanne & Nathan Heilweil Vicki & Joel Blumenfeld Beate Axelrad Harriet & Bernd Bildstein Sheldon Flatow Jerry Sandell

In honor of the naming of Marilyn & Steven Teleky's new granddaughter, Rose Mara Miller Vicki & Joel Blumenfeld Beate Axelrad Harriet & Bernd Bildstein

In memory of Rose Fastow Melvin Fastow

In memory of Mark Cooper Suzanne & Nathan Heilweil In honor of the birth of Vicky & Michael Wolkofsky's new grandson, Max Gabriel Wolkofsky, to Adeena & Seth In honor of the birth of Linda & Arthur Liederman's new grandson, to Joshua & Leah Rita & Scott Zipper

In honor of the birth of Joyce & Bob Fogel's new grandson, to Sophia & Philip In honor of the engagement of Linda & Arthur Liederman's son Ethan to Rebecca Rita & Scott Zipper

In memory of Stanley Rosenberg Robyn & Marc Rosenberg

In honor of JoAnn Luquis being honored at the Torah Fund Brunch Sheldon Flatow

In memory of Ken Rudolf Michelle & Neil Zitofsky Jayne & Larry Cohen Lynn Goldowski & Sam Schwartz Mira Clivner Jerry Sandell

In honor of Amy Blumenfeld Kamensky publishing The Cast Arlene Schwartz

In memory of Ada Lichtenstein In memory of Rebecca Stein Cevia Lipper

In memory of Louis P. Sandell Jerry Sandell

In memory of Nathan W. Blumenfeld Vicki & Joel Blumenfeld

In memory of Bessie Teichler Janice Temple

In memory of David Moser Sandie Altman-Baker

Wishing Refuah Shelemah to Sam Solasz Suzanne & Nathan Heilweil

In memory of Norman Goldberg Leslie Wapnitsky

In memory of Rachel Dianne Goldring Arlene & Abraham Shulman

In memory of Miriam Flatow In memory of Laura Jakob In memory of Morris Flatow Sheldon Flatow

In memory of Lillian Hallerman Rita Glaser

In memory of Louis Bernstein Millie Bernstein

In memory of Albert Wershaw Felice & Ira Margulis

In memory of Reuben Nathanson In memory of Bonnie Rosen Sorrentino Jaye & Ben Solomowitz

In memory of Bernard Krumerman In memory of Sam Breskin In memory of Abraham Breskin Rita & Martin Krumerman

In memory of Ida Rosenberg Eleanor & Joseph Rosenberg

In memory of Alexander Jacobson Arline & William Jacobson

In memory of Mahel Cohen Rose & Sam Solasz

In memory of William Glaubiger Adrienne & Jan Glaubiger

In memory of Henry Heymann Shirley Heymann

In memory of Ezra Miles Hadassah Miles *In memory of Benjamin Shulman* Arlene & Abraham Shulman

In honor of the birth of Linda & Arthur Liederman's new grandson, to Joshua & Leah Marilyn & Steven Teleky

Rabbi's Fund

Thank you for your Book Club Michelle & Neil Zitofsky

In honor of the birth of Vicky & Michael Wolkofsky's new Grandson, Max Gabriel Wolkofsky Charlotte & David Karsch

In memory of Shirley Solomowitz Rosalie & Stephen Roseman

Judith Lesnik Chesed Fund

In memory of Barbara Blechner Carol & Joel Lieber

In memory of Shirley Solomowitz Flo & Bob Gropper Carol & Joel Lieber

In honor of the naming of Marilyn & Steven Teleky's new granddaughter, Rose Mara Miller Linda & Arthur Liederman Flo & Bob Gropper Carol & Paul Hendelman

In memory of Marcia Met In memory of Phyllis Met In memory of Leon Met Carol & Joel Lieber

Prayerbook Fund

In memory of Ken Rudolf The Sackett Family Carol & Paul Hendelman

Men's Club

Thank you to Men's Club for the lovely luncheon and great program you gave for Veteran's Day Harriet & Bernd Bildstein

MEANINGFUL GESTURES

Dateline prints "acknowledgements" for not only the recording of social and personal events, but also as a recording of acts of Tzedaka (Charity) and Chesed (Kindness). Please note your tribute will be made public in Dateline for a minimum contribution of \$20. Also the cost of the Etz Hayim Chumash is \$65 and the Sim Shalom Siddur is \$36.

> Be Active in HHBJC Be Involved Join a committee

Membership - Engagement Fund Raising Adult Education Facilities Life Long Learning Chesed Committee Green Team

Call the Office Now

Below is a monthly calendar for posting on bulletin boards and refrigerators

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Minyan Times		3 Tevet 26 Minyan Times 6:45 AM and 7:30 PM	4 Tevet 27 Morning Minyan 7 AM Candle Lighting 4:23 PM Mincha 4:25 PM	5 Tevet 28 Vaera 9 AM Mincha 4:10 PM Havdalah 5:27 PM
9 AM and 7:30 PM Judith Lesnik Chesed Committee Talk on Aging and Mental Health - 10 AM	Minyan Times 6:30 AM and 7:30 PM	Minyan Times 7 AM and 7:30 PM Rabbi Kessler - Caravan of Jewish	8 AM and 7:30 PM Cantor Zim -	10 Sh'vat 4 Minyan Times 6:45 AM and 7:30 PM	11 Sh'vat 5 Morning Minyan 7 AM Candle Lighting 4:30 PM Mincha 4:30 PM	12 Sh'vat 6 Bo 9 AM Mincha 4:15 PM Havdalah 5:34 PM
9 AM and 7:30 PM Mah Jongg Club - 1 PM	6:45 AM and 7:30 PM Rabbi Wise -	7 AM and 7:30 PM Rabbi Kessler - Caravan of Jewish	8 AM and 7:30 PM Cantor Zim -	17 Sh'vat 11 Minyan Times 6:45 AM and 7:30 PM	18 Sh'vat 12 Morning Minyan 7 AM Candle Lighting 4:38 PM Mincha 4:40 PM	19 Sh'vat 13 Beshalach 9 AM Mincha 4:25 PM Havdalah 5:42 PM Simcha Shabbat - 9 AM
9 AM and 7:30 PM Tu B'Shevat Seder - 8 PM	Minyan Times		23 Sh'vat 17 Minyan Times 8 AM and 7:30 PM Cantor Zim - Learn to Lead Services - 8 PM	24 Sh'vat 18 Minyan Times 6:45 AM and 7:30 PM	25 Sh'vat 19 Morning Minyan 7 AM Candle Lighting 4:46 PM Mincha 4:50 PM	26 Sh'vat 20 Yitro 9 AM Mincha 4:30 PM Havdalah 5:50 PM
9 AM and 7:30 PM	Minyan Times Minyan Times 6:45 AM and	Minyan Times 7 AM and 7:30 PM Rabbi Kessler - Caravan of Jewish	Minyan Times 8 AM and 7:30 PM Cantor Zim -	31 Sh'vat 25 Minyan Times 6:45 AM and 7:30 PM		



Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center's Mah Jongg Club

Sponsored by Sisterhood

Social (non-betting) Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg players!

We invite you to play non-tournament Mah Jongg following the National Mah Jongg League Rules. Practice your skills with your own group or come individually and play with new people. All levels of players are welcome and we will try to keep players together with similar levels. Please bring your 2018 card.

Details:

- Place: Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center, 210-10 Union Turnpike (Menchel Hall)
- Dates: Sundays 11/11/18, 12/16/18, 1/13/19, 2/10/19, 3/3/19, 4/7/19
- Time: 1:00 pm 5:00 pm
- Cost: \$5 per person, per month (cash/checks collected at the door)

Light refreshments available

Please let us know if you are interested in playing. Indicate if you are a beginner, intermediate, or advanced player and if you have a Mah Jongg set you can bring.

For more information contact:

Naomi Horowitz 718 344-6006 or nhorowitzq@gmail.com or Ida Weisser 718 464-4379 IDAN61@aol.com

(Rabbi Kessler Continued from page 5)

become a framework for Jews (particularly North American, but not only) to focus their concern with environmental issues of potentially global import As part of this new interpretation of the holiday, the mystic seder has gained newfound prominence, affirming the deep spiritual as well as physical significance of the natural world in our lives.

The Synthesis:

Integrating these fragmented relationships can heal ourselves and the world. Taken alone, each component can easily get out of whack: the economic can become merely utilitarian; the spiritual, overly abstract; and the national, as mentioned, risks degenerating into chauvinism. An overarching, contemporary socialenvironmental perspective provides a unifying synthesis. In thir seder, the kabbalists aimed at uniting all the realms and worlds. In our many-layered Tu B'Shevat, we too can strive to integrate and deepen the four interlocking realms that define our relationship to life and land: economic, spiritual, nationalpolitical and ecological. Each can, indeed must, inform and help guide the others, together creating a healing, balanced, sustainable, and sustaining whole.

Moreover, in celebrating *Tu B'Shevat* we can integrate the particular: the personal, fruit-giving tree of the *Mishnah,* and the replanted national trees of

Israel, with the universal: the life -giving global trees of the ecosphere and the Life-giving cosmic tree of Kabbalah. And while *Tu B'Shevat* gives us a profound festive opportunity to celebrate and reflect on these relationships, in the face of deepening environmental crises in Israel and around the world, we need to affirm and integrate them more than once a year.

A Happy Tu B'Shevat!! Happy New Year for Trees 2019!!

GARY D. KESSLER – ASSOCIATE RABBI



58. STANDARD HANDS AND RULES
NATIONAL MAH JONGG LEAGUE, INC.

MAH JONGG CARDS FOR 2019 ARE NOW BEING SOLD BY THE SISTERHOOD OF THE HOLLIS HILLS BAYSIDE JEWISH CENTER.

Fill out the Form below and mail to the Sisterhood of the Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center, 210-10 Union Turnpike, Flushing, NY 11364, along with your check in the sum of \$8.00 (Standard Card) or \$9.00 (Large Print Card) made payable to the Sisterhood of the Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center on or before January 15, 2019. Your Mah Jongg Card will be mailed to you in March, 2019.

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		13	

Rabbi Dr. H. Joseph Simckes Life After Retirement Cry, The Beloved Country!

Our beloved land of the free because of the brave, whose glorious Declaration of Independence proclaimed political liberty, religious freedom and universal dignity has cause to weep. I believe that many serious-minded U.S. citizens today can easily close their eyes & see tears running down Lady Liberty's cheeks all the way down to the swirling waters of New York harbor!

Why so? The jagged divisions that have split our country ever since *Donald Trump*, the "political-outsider", shocked all the pundits by snatching presidential victory from the jaws of predicted defeat are just too painful, too uptilting for too many who had other plans for America's future, other agendas for our country: open borders, more taxes, more federal regulation, kicking the deficit can down the road?

They did not know how to lose gracefully in the good old fashioned American way: *We win this time; next time, four years from now, you do. Who knows?"*

As we have all seen and heard on TV and in the streets, ugly assaults and nasty insults, devastating *Identity Politics* bringing shame to our country before the world. How explain it, how repair it?

Psychiatrists tell us that those who pound on a door again and again even though they always get the same result, very likely suffer from pathological syndrome deficit. With professional help and empathic guidance they can recover.

How do we, who place our faith in America's robust history of peacefully agreeing to disagree, tell our friends on the far left and far right to tighten their belts, lift up their chins, smile & move forward to an even more glorious shared future... together? *Stop pounding and pouncing on each other!* Global harmony, international security, economic productivity, tranquility & peace depend on it!

Perhaps our united congregation together with other societal entities can pass around the good word that we, the grass roots folks of our blessed country, have healthy memories- no collective political dementia here in Hollis Hills! We all remember the disaster and even bloodshed of the Civil Rights movement years. We went to public school when teachers taught Civics & American History - including the ghastly horrors of our CIVIL WAR, when more folks died than in all the other wars in our history! No way! We've grown since then!

Republican/Shmublican/ Democrat/Kickthekat/ Independent/Shmindependent...the political "labels" don't matter as much as our goals our shared, TREAS-URED AMERICAN VALUES!

Our parents and grandparents have lost limbs, their inno-

cence, their very lives in defense of these precious values all over the world. Do their precious grandchildren have to have their lives shattered, their dreams smashed and their futures destroyed? Who will we have to blame for that horror if not ourselves!

Well, friends, let's not just cry, wring our hands, make believe it will all go away on its own. Our sisters and brothers in Warsaw, Frankfurt and Amsterdam thought that demented leaders & deluded followers were just a passing political bad dream that would disappear in the morning. When they woke up? The agony and anguish of the Shoah! Poor souls! Can we learn from their mistakes or are we merely helpless children lost in the woods?

Our sacred Torah tells us that the Holy One confronted the 1st family when they were confused, paralyzed by fear and uncertainty and terrifying options: "Where are you?...Who told you that you were naked, * defenseless, without reason or responsibility? Leave the garden of evil & and get on with your mortal lives!"

Or later, in Scriptures when a super-tzunami threatened the world, what did HA-SHEM suggest to Noah? ** *"BUILD A BOAT!" IMPLICATION?* Take charge of your existential reality! Transform catastrophe into opportunity! ***

Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center					
January Birthdays					
Linda Burke	1/1	Tova Oko	1/15		
Richard Artman	1/4	Evelyn Zornberg	1/15		
Rita Krumerman	1/5	Paul Reich	1/16		
Paul Hendelman	1/6	Alan Geltman	1/17		
Leonard Kaplan	1/6	Steven Menzie	1/17		
Manuel Soifer	1/6	Alfred Weisz	1/17		
Naftali Tal	1/6	Hon. George Heymann	1/18		
Joan Waxgiser	1/6	Roberta Andreoli	1/19		
Josef Wittenberg	1/6	Eleanor Ulrich	1/19		
Enid Krell	1/8	Barbara Markowitz	1/20		
Jan Katz	1/9	Lisa Ajzenman	1/21		
Linda Silverman	1/9	Lenore Hanau	1/25		
Sandie Baker	1/10	Bernd Bildstein	1/27		
Norma Brooks	1/10	Beth Cohen	1/27		
Hon. Joel Blumenfeld	1/11	Susan Deutch	1/27		
Adele Zwerling	1/11	Dr. Marc Sternberg	1/27		
Ivan Tantleff 1/		Renee Kaplan	1/29		
Alexis Ludwig	1/14	Ruth Saken	1/30		
Lawrence Katz 1/15		Viviane Verstandig	1/30		

January Anniversaries Yevgeniya & Radim Teplitskiy 1/10 Lois & Paul Goldstein 1/17 Beth & Neil Cohen 1/18 Viviane & Steven 1/18 Verstandig Esta & Gary Newman 1/26 Marilyn & Stanley Seidenfeld 1/27 Irene & Michael Borman 1/30

ALL THE BEST AND MANY MORE.... If you see a name missing, or if you are not sure that we have the dates of your Simchas, call the office to insure that we have that information in our database.

MAH JONGG CLUB NEWS

We started the HHBJC Mah Jongg Club in November and the response was amazing. December 16th we met again and we were 59 strong on a rainy day in Queens.

Special thanks to the Sisterhood for sponsoring our events and to Richie, Nancy and Lou Ann for everything they do for Time to buy more tables and MJ sets - Woohoo!!

Our next game meets January 13th and if you are interested in playing you must RSVP to Naomi: nhorowitzq@gmail.com or at 718 344-6006.

Space is limited (happy to say)!

us.



(Rabbi Simckes Continued from page 14)

Get it, guys and gals? Let's roll up our sleeves & do something about it!

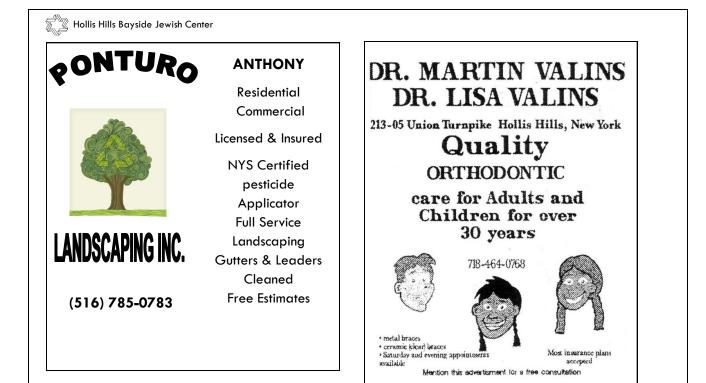
...Rabbi Dr. Hirsch Joseph Simckes

* Genesis 3:8

** Genesis6:13-22

*** Check any recent reliable history book, re-discover the phenomenal success, dynamic growth & glorious triumph of the survivors of the Holocaust post WWII! Are we any less capable, less resilient?





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