



Community News

January 2017

Tevet/Shevat 5777

Volume 68, Number 5

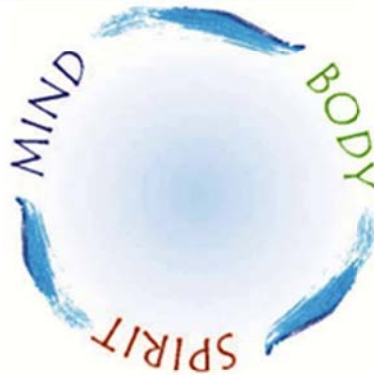
START 2017 WITH MINDFULNESS AT CSR

Go to a
SAJE meeting
Mondays and Thursdays
to connect with other active
seniors for lunch and programs.

Participate in the
Book Club on Jan. 5 with
Rabbi Frankel at 8 pm to
discuss
The Last Woman Standing.

Come to **First Friday**
Torah Study on Jan. 6
with Rabbi Gropper at 7 am.

Make a donation to the
Social Action
Committee/CJL
January Food Drive or the
COSY Midnight Run Drive.



Bring your family to the first
Shabbat of the new year:
Sharing Shabbat on Jan. 6.
Music, food, and community!

Join us for
Social Action
Shabbat
and the **T'filah Band**
on Jan. 13.

Enjoy **dinner and a movie**
on **Jan 12** at A Different
Lens. Starting at 5:45 pm
The Frisco Kid.

Practice **Jewish Yoga on**
Jan 8 with Cantor Cooperman
from 3:30 pm– 5 pm.

Community Synagogue of Rye is a caring Jewish community that seeks to add meaning and purpose to your life.

Inspired by Jewish teachings and traditions, we seek to be a center for spiritual transformation; to foster the creation of sacred relationships; and to give people the tools and resources to be God's partner in healing the world.

This vision is guided by our commitment to the Jewish values of Worship (*T'filah*), Lifelong Learning (*Talmud Torah*), Community (*Kehilah*), Loving Kindness (*Hesed*), Repairing the World (*Tikkun Olam*) and Love of Israel (*Ahavat Yisrael*).

CLERGY AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF

RabbiDaniel B. Gropper
 RabbiLeora Frankel
 Cantor.....Melanie Cooperman
 Rabbi Emeritus.....Robert A. Rothman
 Executive Director.....Irene Lustgarten
 CJL Education Director.....Laurie Landes
 Family Life Director.....Rick Abrams
 ECC Director.....Dale Oberlander
 SAJE Coordinator.....Sarah Poland

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Officers

President.....Laurie Frolich
 Executive Vice President.....Michael Foreman
 Vice President.....Jackie Kabot
 Vice President.....Susan Zeitlin
 Vice President.....Seth Rosenfield
 Treasurer.....Shara Kimmel
 Financial Secretary.....Irene Metz
 Recording SecretaryMichele Fredman
 Immediate Past President.....Gerald Cohen

Trustees

Fredda Berger, Michael Bertisch, Jeff Cammisa, Donna DeLynn, Kelly Grayer, Jon Jachman, Abby Katz, Pam Kerlan, Lloyd Mallah, Mickey Marks, Julie Schuster, Jamie Schutzer, Jill Serin, Mark Singer, Danielle Tagger-Epstein, Jacey Taub, Lauren Wolman-Mioli and Dana Zimmerman.

WRJ/Sisterhood Leadership

Brianne Goldstein, Carol Meyers and Janet Meyers

COSY President

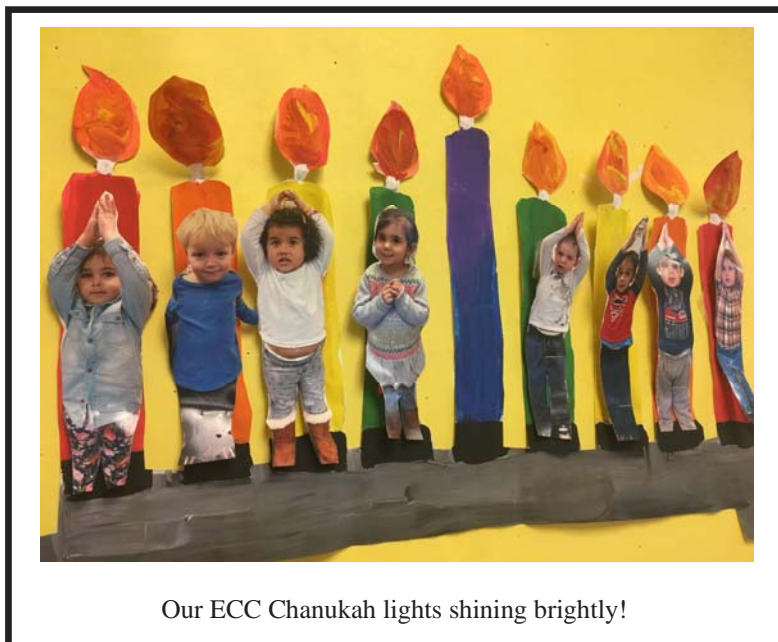
Rachel Rubin

COMMUNITY NEWS STAFF

Co-EditorsJackie Christal
Joanne Steinhart
Ruth Harmon
 Layout and Design.....Maria Slippen

CONTACT US

Main 914-967-6262
 ECC 914-967-7698
 CJL 914-967-7598
 Fax 914-967-0065
www.comsynrye.org
info@comsynrye.org




Our ECC Chanukah lights shining brightly!

URJ Summer Camp
Scholarship Applications
due February 1

The Sampliner Youth Leadership Development Fund is making camp scholarships available for these programs, which are run by the Union for Reform Judaism.

Send applications/inquiries to the Fund c/o Iris & David Sampliner, 5 Oriole Place, Rye Brook, NY 10573. For more information call the Sampliners at 914-939-0349.



WILL RESUME
THURSDAY, JANUARY 5th
8:00pm

BOOK: The Last Woman Standing
By Thelma Adams

[rsvp to clergyassistant@comsynrye.org](mailto:clergyassistant@comsynrye.org)
 or call (914) 967-6262 x235

JANUARY 2017 CALENDAR

Sunday, January 1 Chanukah: 8th Day

Monday, January 2 (ECC, CJL, No SAJE, and Office Closed)

No SAJE

Tuesday, January 3 (ECC Re-opens)

Wednesday, January 4

4:00 pm CJL Grades K-7
7:00 pm Canasta

Thursday, January 5

10:00 am Daytime *Torah* Study with Rabbi Gropper
11:30 am SAJE
7:30 pm iEngage Class (off-site)
Building Committee
8:00 pm CSR Book Club
Green Team

Friday, January 6

7:00 am First Friday *Torah* Study with Rabbi Gropper
5:15 pm Sharing *Shabbat* & Hot Shot *Shabbat*
6:30 pm *Shabbat* Services

Saturday, January 7

8:45 am CJL Grades 3-6
6th Grade Family Artifacts Day
8:45 am *Torah* Study Service
9:00 am CJL JET (Jewish Engagement Team) Meeting
11:15 am Justin Schuster, *bar mitzvah*

Sunday, January 8

3:30 pm Jewish Yoga

Monday, January 9

11:30 am SAJE
6:15 pm CJL 7th Grade and CSR Teens (8-10)
8:15 pm Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, January 11

9:00 am ECC Parent Association Meeting
6:15 pm CJL 7th Grade and CSR Teens (8-10)
7:00 pm Canasta
8:00 pm Band rehearsal

Thursday, January 12

11:30 am SAJE
5:45 pm A Different Lens—Jewish Cinema
(5:45 dinner, 6 pm movie, 8 pm discussion)
7:15 pm ATID
7:30 pm iEngage Class (off-site)

Friday, January 13

7:45 pm Social Action *Shabbat* Service with *T'filah* Band

Saturday, January 14

8:45 am CJL Grades 3-6
8:45 am *Torah* Study Service
5:00 pm Sydney Brookman, *bat mitzvah*
TBA COSY Midnight Run

Monday, January 16 (ECC, CJL, No SAJE, and Office Closed)

Martin Luther King Day

No SAJE

Wednesday, January 18

4:00 pm CJL Grades K-7
5th Grade *Gadna* program (Israeli Boot
Camp)
7:00 pm Canasta
7:00 pm The Healing Arts—An Evening of Mindfulness for
Parents
7:30 pm Tzedek Council

Thursday, January 19

10:00 am Daytime *Torah* Study with Rabbi Gropper
11:30 am SAJE
7:00 pm Mah Jongg
7:30 pm iEngage Class (off-site)
8:00 pm Building Committee

Friday, January 20

7:45 pm *Shabbat* Service

Saturday, January 21

8:45 am 6th Grade *Mitzvah* Fair
8:45 am CJL Grades 3-6
8:45 am *Torah* Study Service
11:15 am Baron Rozowsky, *bar mitzvah*
3:00 pm COSY Jr. Sports Night

Monday, January 23

11:30 am SAJE
6:15 pm CJL 7th Grade and CSR Teens (8-10)
8:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 25

10:30 am ECC Parent Association Meeting
4:00 pm CJL 7th Grade and CSR Teens (8-10)
Last Wednesday Class for 7th Grade
7:00 pm Canasta

Thursday, January 26

11:30 am SAJE
7:00 pm Heard in Rye
7:30 pm iEngage Class
8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 27

7:45 pm *Shabbat* Service with Choir, Rye Clergy Exchange

Saturday, January 28

8:45 am CJL Grades 3-6
8:45 am I-Select, 5th grade and 5th/6th Chavurah
8:45 am *Torah* Study Service

Monday, January 30

11:30 am SAJE
6:15 pm CJL 7th Grade and CSR Teens (8-10)
8:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting

INSIDE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE OF RYE

Rabbi Daniel Gropper • dgropper@comsynrye.org

“The Youth Shall See Visions.” (Joel 2:28)



Dear Friends,

Part of our congregation’s vision statement reads, “... to give people the tools and resources to be God’s partner in healing the world.” One way we have done this is to intentionally work with our CSR Teen community to create ways for them to engage with our larger world and to bring to bear their natural inclinations towards service. All our *b’nei mitzvah* complete a *mitzvah* project; our Monday

night eighth grade curriculum includes opportunities to do hands-on social action projects as a large group; we sponsor “social action Sundays” throughout the year; our tenth graders attend the *L’Taken* Seminar of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and this year, we introduced a Civil Rights trip to the American South to learn about the historical struggle for civil rights and how that struggle continues to this day.

Along with teens from Congregation Emanuel of Westchester and Larchmont Temple, Reanna Rosenfeld and Elijah Gropper traveled with Cantor Cooperman to Georgia and Alabama to walk in the footsteps of those who experienced segregation first hand, who spoke truth to power and who marched for justice—sometimes at their own physical peril. I asked Reanna to reflect on her experiences in these pages and then for Elijah and Reanna to speak on Friday, January 13 as part of our annual Martin Luther King Jr. Social Action *Shabbat*. Enjoy her words. Come learn from them and support them later this month by joining us on Friday, January 13.

I want to share one experience that impacted me the most. We took a trip to the Equal Justice Initiative, which was really exciting, considering how important criminal justice reform is to me. The Equal Justice Initiative was formed to provide free, quality legal services to condemned men and women on death row. Two lawyers from EJI spoke to us about the history of lynching, their work on preventing death penalty executions, and abusive punishments of juveniles. They told us about Bryan Stevenson, who is their director and also the author of *Just Mercy*. When I came home, I immediately read his book. Stevenson’s book shared the story of those on death row, some of whom were innocent, mentally ill, abused and neglected, and some who were children prosecuted as adults. This book was incredibly moving, its message saying our fight for justice is not over. This message was parallel to the overall message I learned from my trip to Alabama and Atlanta.

Fifty-four years ago this month, representatives of U.S. Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant organizations gathered in Chicago for The National Conference on Religion and Race, whose mission was to discuss America’s racial problems. It was hailed by Martin Luther King as “the most significant and historic [convention] ever held for attacking racial injustice.” King gave one of the major speeches at the four-day event, convened to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and subtitled, “A Challenge to Justice and Love.”

At that conference, Rabbi and Theologian Abraham Joshua Heschel said, “At the first conference on religion and race, the main participants were Pharaoh and Moses. Moses’ words were: ‘Thus says the [Eternal], the God of Israel, let my people go that they may celebrate a feast to Me.’ While Pharaoh retorted: ‘Who is the [Eternal], that I should heed this voice and let Israel go? I do not know the [Eternal], and moreover I will not let Israel go.’ The outcome of that summit meeting has not come to an end. Pharaoh is not ready to capitulate. The exodus began, but it is far from having been completed. In fact, it is easier for the children of Israel to cross the Red Sea than for an [African-American] to cross certain university campuses. Let us dodge no issues. Let us yield no inch to bigotry, let us make no compromise with callousness.”

The exodus began but it is far from having been completed. Racial injustice remains a reality. With over 7 percent of America’s 6 million Jews identifying as Jews of color (African American, Asian, Latino/Hispanic, Native American or mixed-race), this is a Jewish issue. Racial injustice undermines hope, squanders potential, devastates communities, costs lives. Racial injustice permeates our education system, creating deep cracks that have shattered individual lives and also broken our society. Caring about racial justice isn’t just about “us” or “them,” but about everyone. It’s about saying that we “yield no inch to bigotry.” Sending our teens to the American South to learn about issues of racial injustice is a step towards tolerance and understanding. They have learned. Now it is their turn to educate. Please come learn from Reanna and Elijah’s experiences on Friday, January 13.

L’Shalom,

INSIDE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE OF RYE

Laurie Frolich, President • president@comsynrye.org

The Sanctuary That Sees It All



Welcome to the first few weeks of January as we ring in the secular New Year and try to grow accustomed to wishing each other a happy 2017! I'm sure it will be another few weeks before we all feel at home in this brand new year. Hopefully it will be one of peace, prosperity and happiness for each of us individually and collectively as a community.

As I think back to the year receding in the rear view window, and the many experiences that I shared with our synagogue family, a common element comes to the fore, and that is our sanctuary. When you step into the shoes of the Presidency you end up spending a lot of time at the synagogue, as is to be expected, but you also spend a lot of time in the sanctuary and bear witness to the many phases of life that pass through its doors.

On a Friday night it becomes a warm and tranquil place of respite to usher in *Shabbat* with fellow congregants. As we turn to face the door during *L'cha Dodi* and welcome in the *Shabbat* bride, and then turn back again to face the ark, one can feel the sweep of time wash over us as the peace of *Shabbat* begins.

If there is a *b'nei mitzvah* the next morning, then we add the presence of the *bar* or *bat mitzvah*, and his or her family fills out the seats. We look forward to hearing about the *mitzvah* project that our temple youth engage in to fulfill one of the expectations of becoming *b'nei mitzvah*. I have been amazed and energized by the many and varied projects our students have undertaken: raising money for cancer research, contributing countless hours of tutoring or after school support at the Carver Center, adding joy to an elderly companion's day, or socializing a young puppy in an animal shelter. I always leave these services inspired and cheered by the future of our Jewish youth and their commitment to *tikkun olam*, repairing the world.

Equally inspiring but in a wholly different way are the Saturday morning *Torah* services that are part of our regular weekend worship. Here a different set of congregants, many long-time members and those committed to making study a part of their Jewish experience, spend an early morning grappling with Hebrew text, teasing out nuanced meanings from thousands of years ago that still speak with clarity and purpose to our 21st century life. There is an easy camaraderie within this group, as many "come as they are" in casual clothes to find familiar faces whose insights elevate their thinking.

As we leave this space to share in a *Kiddish*, young students from our CJL (Center for Jewish Learning) are lined up outside, with eager faces, to fill our now vacated seats for some spiritual growth and development of their own with our Rabbis, Cantor, and temple educators.

And then there are mornings, that seem to come with some frequency now, when a family files in behind a plain wooden casket with a Jewish star on its cover, and feelings of grief for a loved one echo and fill our holy space.

Our sanctuary bears witness to the joy of a baby naming, the energy of a *bar* or *bat mitzvah*, and the beauty and reverence of a bride and groom joining hands and making a new start under our *chuppah*.

If we can envision all of these life-changing occasions within the small space of our sanctuary, then why is it so hard to imagine a fresh, new beginning for it? Our sanctuary, and the space surrounding it, is at the very heart of our congregational life and vital to its continuity.

And yet as we enter 2017—the year designated to break ground for our new space—we are still \$2 million dollars short of our target goal of \$6.2 million. As I learned after participating in many phone calls and meetings, this money is not just earmarked for a cosmetic "makeover." We anticipate spending close to \$3 million dollars to structurally improve a building that was constructed more than forty years ago for a different community with very different needs.

We have reached out from the *Bimah*, and through phone calls, letters, emails and postcards. We have now asked our Board of Trustees to help us connect with their friends and neighbors in order to give everyone who wishes to do so an opportunity to participate in our *Kadima* campaign.

If you could see all of the activity, the energy and the joy that passes through this space, I know you would want to be part of the network of contributors that will ensure that it continues into the next generation. If you haven't been contacted and wish to make a gift or a pledge, or wish to increase your participation, please contact me or Susan Rudolph and we will be happy to speak with you.

With warm regards and best wishes,

Laurie Frolich

INSIDE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE OF RYE

Irene Lustgarten, Executive Director • ilustgarten@comsynrye.org

Stepping Up To Volunteer



Stepping up to volunteer and share one's experience, expertise, passion and time is a timeless gift to any organization. At Community Synagogue of Rye, we value the gift of volunteering and seek ways to facilitate and match congregants' interests and skills with the needs of our sacred community. The volunteer enriches and enhances the life of the congregation and, at the same time, is personally rewarded by the intangible contributions.

The American Psychological Association has identified five primary motivations for volunteering:

- **Values:** Volunteering to satisfy personal values or humanitarian concerns. For some people this can have a religious component.
- **Community Concern:** Volunteering to help a particular community, such as a neighborhood or ethnic group, to which you feel attached.
- **Esteem Enhancement:** Volunteering to feel better about yourself or escape other pressures.
- **Understanding:** Volunteering to gain a better understanding of other people, cultures or places.
- **Personal Development:** Volunteering to challenge yourself, meet new people and make new friends, or further your career.

Depending on what interests you and where you feel you want to contribute your time and expertise, the synagogue offers a wide range of areas where you may wish to volunteer. Congregants with expertise in communications, construction, editing, education, finance, fundraising, insurance, investments, law, marketing, security, and technology are among those currently serving as valuable resources and working with us to make the smartest decisions for the community. A list of volunteer opportunities can be found on our website at <http://www.comsynrye.org/act.html>.

Winston Churchill was quoted as saying, "You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give." We encourage you to volunteer and give of yourself in ways that are personally meaningful and reflect your values and those of the synagogue. By doing so, you will have the opportunity to connect with other like-minded people as well as help move the community to a better place.

Rick Abrams, Director of Jewish Family Life • rabrabs@comsynrye.org



Havdalah—Come in From the Cold

**PJ Library®/J-Living Program for Families with children 3-7
Saturday, February 4 from 4:00-5:30 pm**

Havdalah is a unique experience that we have each week. It consists of a brief ceremony, typically held when three stars appear in the sky at the close of *Shabbat*. The ceremony uses a special *Havdalah* candle, a spice box and wine. With all our senses engaged, we take a few moments to say goodbye to *Shabbat* and reflect before plunging forward to the week ahead. Children love the ceremony as it engages their senses and brings the family together for a few moments of reflection before the business and busyness of the week begins anew.

At the end, we invoke the prophet Elijah when we sing "*Eliyahu Hanavi*." When Elijah comes, there is a teaching that "He shall turn the hearts of the parents toward their children and the hearts of the children to their parents."

This PJ Library/J-Living *Havdalah* event is an opportunity to come in from the cold together as a family, experience a truly beautiful Jewish ceremony, gain the tools to bring home and continue the practice, and enjoy some hot chocolate and pizza.

CONTRIBUTIONS

CANTOR COOPERMAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Vivian & John Linder
Jackie Berler & John Frolich in memory of Lotte Frolich
Elaine Lerner in memory of Barry E. Lerner, Ada Goodman
Lerner & Roland Barret
Jayne & Harris Maslansky in memory of Belle Bennett
Bonnie Caley in appreciation for the beautiful funeral service
for her father Carl Wess

HESED

In memory of Lotte Frolich
Seth Rosenfield
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick

KADIMA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Carol & Gerald Cohen in memory of Lotte Frolich,
Belle Bennett, and Elaine Siegel
Jacey & Daniel Taub in memory of Belle Bennett,
mother of Carol Bennett
Caryl & Gil Weinstein

MICHAEL GINSBERG MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND

Fern & Howard Bindelglass in memory of Meyer Bindelglass

RABBI FRANKEL'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Judith Abigail Sage
Jennifer & Jeffrey Kohn
Shelly & Chuck Shotland
Fredda & Eric Berger

RABBI GROPPER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Cindy & Leslie Danish in appreciation for the special *aliyah* on the
occasion of their wedding anniversary

Wendy & Jamie Schutzer in memory of Harriet Schutzer and in
appreciation for Rabbi Gropper's support after her death
Jennifer & Jeffrey Kohn
Susan Schackman Adler in memory of Ira J. Schackman

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND

Susan & Barry Adler in memory of Ira J. Shackman

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT (SAJE) FUND

Amy Wisot Futterman & Lenard Futterman in memory of
Julius Wisot
In memory of Belle Bennett, mother of Carol Bennett
Joan Furman
Caryl & Gilbert Weinstein
Iris & David Sampliner
Phyllis & Harry Mix
Helene & Martin Krauss
Herbert Blecker in memory of Mac Schrantz
Leonard August in memory of Gus Uhry

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In memory of Belle Bennett, mother of Carol Bennett
Beverly Magida
Marjorie & David Lawrence
Judy and Jay Greenfield
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick

YAHREZEIT FUND

Jill & Jimmy Feldesman in memory of Lucille Feldesman
Laura Leach & Richard Lawrence in memory of Jerry Lawrence

(Note: Contributions received through 12/15)

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE



Summer 2017 will be a busy one at CSR. Construction will commence in early June on the long awaited \$6.2M synagogue renovation.

A construction manager will be selected in early 2017, and will be an integral part of the planning, site logistics and ongoing safety measures during the construction period. The design team is lead by the prominent architectural firm, Rogers Partners Architects.

It is anticipated that construction will be complete in summer 2018 and it will transform the entry, communal, office and worship spaces of CSR. The new space will reflect the quality of the CSR community and its programs.

Keeping safety front and center, CSR will prioritize selecting a contractor who is well versed in renovating a building while it is partially occupied. Additional steps will include engaging a third-party site safety consultant to ensure that best practices are employed.

The ECC program, CJL, other daytime programming that utilizes the second floor only and limited CSR administrative functions will remain in full operation during the renovation. This includes, parking, security, outdoor play and educational programming.

The renovation includes selective demolition and asbestos abatement. The asbestos removal will be performed as the first stage of the construction project in summer 2017. The removal will be conducted by a licensed asbestos abatement firm, and done in accordance with safe work practices. Daily oversight of the contractor activities, including final clearance air samples, will be conducted by a licensed third-party environmental consultant on behalf of CSR. To minimize disruption and maximize safety, ECC summer programs have been cancelled for 2017. This allows the bulk of the disruptive activities to take place while the building is unoccupied.

Soulful Learning



As the new secular year begins, many of us have made resolutions to improve ourselves in some way. By doing this, we recognize that we continue to be on a journey to be better people. Our teachers are also on a journey of continued improvement. This year at our Teachers *Kallah* on January 29, we are fortunate to be able to learn from noted educator Aryeh Ben David, Director of Ayeka (Where are you?) an organization that

provides the tools to become soulful educators. “Ayeka affirms that the goal of learning Jewish wisdom is not solely to become a more knowledgeable or smarter person. The larger goal of learning Jewish wisdom is to affect and change us, to enable us to become better people, living in the image of God. To do this, we need opportunities to acquire Jewish knowledge in such a way that it not only enters our minds, but also reaches our hearts and everyday lives.” As our teachers grow and gain a deeper understanding of themselves, they will be able to create learning that harmonizes soulful reflection, creativity, content knowledge and action. Learners will gain a greater sense of self as they continue their journey toward becoming a *mensch*.

If you would like to learn more about soulful learning, I suggest that you read Aryeh Ben David’s book, *Becoming a Soulful Educator*.

Let the Games Begin



A new year is a great opportunity to make positive changes and try new things. Something you may consider in 2017 is making a commitment to play some old-fashioned games with your children. By old fashioned I am referring to the games that were played before computers and electronics took over. Games like Checkers, cards, Dominos, Chutes and Ladders, Connect Four and Candyland...activities that require you to play with another human being.

Games can be very educational as well as fun. Just by virtue of playing them, board games can teach important social skills, such as communicating verbally, sharing, waiting, taking turns, and enjoying interaction with others. Board games can help children focus, and lengthen their attention span by encouraging the completion of a game until the end. Even simple board games offer important messages and life skills: your luck can change in an instant—for better or for worse. The message inherent in board games is to never give up because the next roll of the dice can change everything.

Taking turns is one of the first things you learn about playing games. There are times when you get to act and times when you wait. Drawing cards, moving pieces around on the board, taking the dice—these are things you shouldn’t do unless it’s your turn. Playing games teaches children that there are appropriate times for everything, and this will extend outside of games to real life.

Children take game playing seriously, so it’s important that we help guide them. Therefore, you need to help balance your child’s pleasure in playing the game with his very limited ability to manage frustration and deal with the idea of losing.

In the early years, the primary goal should be to help your child become more self-confident and to enjoy playing with others. If you’re playing with more than one child, divide the family into teams, give each player a job he/she can do well. A younger child may be responsible for rolling the dice (which he considers important, since that is where the luck comes from), and an older child may have the job of sorting the Monopoly money.

The ECC is taking this idea to heart. Recently, our pre-K spent a wonderful time with members of SAJE playing games. This month we are launching a new afternoon enrichment class for our four year olds. In this class, children will learn a wide variety of oldie-but-goodie games that are not limited to just board games. We’ve included games like cards, charades and Twister as well.

CJL AND J-LIFE IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 2	NO SCHOOL, Holiday Break
Jan 4	CJL re-opens
Jan 7	6 th Grade Family Artifacts Day
Jan 16	NO SCHOOL, MLK Day
Jan 18	5 th Grade <i>Gadna</i> program (Israel Boot Camp)
Jan 21	6 th Grade <i>Mitzvah</i> Fair
Jan 25	Last Wednesday class for 7 th grade
Jan 28	I -Select, 5 th grade and 5 th /6 th <i>Chavurah</i>

ECC IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 3	ECC Re-opens
Jan 6	Sharing <i>Shabbat</i>
Jan 16	ECC Closed for MLK Day

OUR *B'NEI MITZVAH* OF JANUARY

Justin Schuster



My name is Justin Schuster and I will be called to the *Torah* as a *bar mitzvah* on January 7. I am the son of Glen and Julie Schuster and have an older brother, Seth, who is a freshman at the University of Pennsylvania. I am an eighth grader at Blind Brook Middle School. My *Torah* portion is *Vayigash* from the Book of Genesis. The section I am focusing on in the story of Joseph is when Joseph reveals his true identity to his brothers. For my *mitzvah* project, I volunteered my time at The Sharing Shelf, sorting clothing, lifting and moving boxes and also raised money for new socks for those in need. I sent an email out to friends and family asking them to each donate \$18 which could buy 18 pairs of socks. So many people were excited about participating. After I become a *bar mitzvah*, I will continue to help those in need in an effort toward repairing our world.

Sydney Brookman



My name is Sydney Brookman and I will be called to the *Torah* as a *bat mitzvah* on January 14. I am the daughter of Jamie and Douglas Brookman and I have a younger brother Noah, who is in fourth grade. I am a seventh grader at Blind Brook Middle School. I love to dance. My *Torah* portion, *Shemot*, is from the Book of Exodus. For my *mitzvah* project, I chose to volunteer at The Sharing Shelf. The Sharing Shelf collects clothing for babies, children and teenagers. My friend Bailey and I held a clothing drive, brought the collection to The Sharing Shelf and then helped sort it. We volunteered at the Teen Boutique, which is a one day shopping boutique for underprivileged teenage girls.

Baron Rozowsky



My name is Baron Rozowsky and on January 21 I will be called to the *Torah* as a *bar mitzvah*. I am the son of Kahleen and Trevor Rozowsky and I have two brothers, one younger, Juian, and one older, Colin. I am a seventh grader at Rye Middle School. My *Torah* portion is *Sh'mot* from the Book of Exodus. The portion I will be reading is the story of Moses as a baby. Pharaoh had ordered all Israelite male children to be killed. Moses' mother's faith in God saved his life by placing him in a basket to drift his way to safety, which led him to be rescued and raised by Pharaoh's daughter. This teaches us to do everything you can for those you love. For my *mitzvah* project, I sorted medical supplies for the Afya Foundation to be distributed around the world to those in need.



Join us in congratulating our *b'nei mitzvah* students each month on Facebook!



Sixteen CJL students went on the annual trip to the Religious Action Center (RAC) in Washington, DC.

CSR's students connected with hundreds of other Jewish teens to learn about key political and social issues and how they can make change happen. The *L'Taken* Social Justice Seminar at the RAC was, as always, an incredible experience, which culminated with a day of lobbying on Capitol Hill. To learn more about the RAC trip, visit rac.org.

CJL "ON-TIME" Winner of November: David Singer!



Each month the CJL makes a donation to a Jewish cause.

David has chosen to direct his donation to Westchester Jewish Community Services.

Study and learning are important Jewish values. Coming to class on-time demonstrates a commitment to Jewish learning. David is a wonderful role model for our school.

EMPTY NEST-FULL LIFE TEAM

Our visit last month to the MET for a tour of the exhibit Jerusalem was quite amazing. Special thanks to Alan & Jean Shepard, event coordinators, and our knowledgeable docent, Elizabeth Eisenberg.

Please join us for these up-coming events in January at CSR:

Canasta Lessons

Wednesdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25 from 7:00-9:00. Cost for all four sessions is \$36. For more information or to sign-up, contact Laurie Landes at llandes@comsynrye.org.

Dinner and Movie

Thursday, January 12 join us for a light dinner at 5:45 pm followed by the movie, *Frisco Kid* with Gene Wilder and Harrison Ford at 6:00 pm. A lively discussion led by Cantor Cooperman and her husband, Allan Staples, will begin at 8:00 pm. Please RSVP to the Synagogue office 914-967-6262 or email execassistant@comsynrye.org. DVDs are available to view the movie at home and then come for the discussion at 8:00 pm.

Help Feed the Hungry in Port Chester

On Saturday, January 21 the Empty Nest-Full Life Team is helping to sponsor Dinner at Noon. You can help make Dinner at Noon a success by donating the following:

- Juices or bottled teas—Assorted varieties ready to pour for our guests
- Fruit such as grapes and bananas
- Homemade baked goods like brownies or cookies

Talented cooks are invited to help prepare the main meal and sides on Friday, January, 20. Time TBD. Financial donations of \$10 to \$15 are always welcome and necessary to buy the main course ingredients. We are hoping for at least 7 donors to contribute to the cost of the meal. We prepare whole, real foods.

Contact Marlena Schaeffer to let her know how you will participate, marschaeffer@aol.com or 914 933-0763.

Save the Date

On Saturday evening, March 11, award-winning composer (*I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*), pianist and entertainer Jimmy Roberts will be at CSR sharing his wonderful musical talents with us. More details to follow.

Condolences

When cherished ties are broken, our burden of sadness is made lighter by the sympathy and comfort of friends.

Our congregation mourns the death of:

Belle Bennett, mother of Carol Bennett

Ira Schackman, father of Susan Adler

Desna Lewis, mother of Stephen Lewis

Constance Singer, mother of Susan Siegel

Joan Handwerker, wife of Arnold Handwerker and beloved CJL Teacher

SISTERHOOD



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM

Sisterhood of Community Synagogue

WRJ/Sisterhood

cordially invites

you

to visit our

Judaica Shop

Call the Synagogue office

at

967-6262

to arrange for an

appointment

or for information.



MAH JONGG

Thursday, January 19, 2017

7:00 to 9:30 pm

Players of all levels are welcome, including beginners. The cost to attend is \$5 for members and non-members, and \$10 for anyone who would like a lesson, both of which support Sisterhood initiatives.

Save these dates:

1/19/17

2/23/17

3/30/17

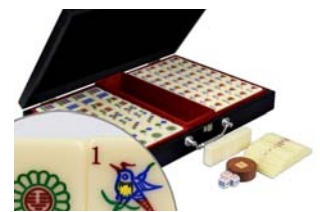
4/27/17

5/18/17

6/29/17

7/27/17

8/31/17



RSVP to Janet Meyers at Janet@SHMeyers.com or 914-967-0447. Please let her know your level of play and if you can bring a Mah Jongg set.

ADULT LEARNING

SAJE (SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT)

Sarah Weiss-Poland • SAJE@comsynrye.org



SAJE is designed to provide social and educational opportunities to active seniors in our community. The group meets every Monday and Thursday between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm and includes lunch after the program.

You are always welcome to bring a friend.

Please contact the SAJE coordinator at saje@comsynrye.org with any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

Thursday, January 5

Dine Around: Rattlesnake Jack's Restaurant, 110 Halstead Avenue in Harrison. Lunch will be at 12:00 pm and is \$20 for appetizer, entrée, dessert, and drink. Contact Iris Sampliner at ikstravel@aol.com with any questions and to sign up.

Monday, January 9

Dr. Annette Rotter is a pioneer in Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom, a significant Jewish sisterhood program focusing on growing relationships between Muslim and Jewish women to build bridges and fight hate, negative stereotyping and prejudice. More than two dozen such synagogue chapters all across the country focus on sharing holidays, meals, social action projects and cultural trips with the intent of breaking down mutually held stereotypes. Dr. Rotter is a New York State licensed psychologist with over 25 years of experience practicing psychotherapy.

Thursday January 12

We are proud to welcome **Gary Brown**, NY Assistant Attorney General in Charge to SAJE. The Westchester Regional Office serves the counties of Putnam, Rockland and Westchester Counties. Bureaus represented in this office include Consumer Frauds and Public Advocacy, Charities and Not-for-Profits, State Counsel and Litigation, and the Sex Offender Management Bureau. Mr. Brown will speak to SAJE about senior fraud scams including Medicaid fraud.

Monday, January 16—No SAJE

Thursday, January 19

Join **Amy Zabin**, a renowned music therapist with more than 30 years of experience, as she educates us about the benefits of this relaxation method. Amy works with patients at Stamford and Greenwich Hospitals to provide emotional coping tools that help decrease fears, pain and feelings of isolation for people who are hospitalized or receiving treatment. The music of her guitar, the sound of her voice, and the use of singing bowls gradually lead participants into deeper states of relaxation.

Monday January 23

SAJE welcomes **Jon Rekedal**, who recently joined Community Synagogue of Rye as Clergy Assistant. Jon has a bachelor's degree in History from University of Rochester, and enjoys participating in history forums and discussions. He will address the role of automation in the media and how it is representative of automation across society. From robotic manufacturing to twitter bots, the discussion will focus on the impact of automation and what it means for American citizens, Jews, and the future of the Western liberal order.

Thursday, January 26

Dr. Jennifer Ratner is a Doctor of Audiology at Audiology Associates of Westchester. Dr. Ratner was awarded her doctorate in audiology from the top graduate audiology program in the country, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She has worked as a research assistant in the Dan Maddox Hearing Aid Research Laboratory at Vanderbilt University, and completed her externship at the renowned Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Nashville. She is a member of the American Academy of Audiology, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and the Tinnitus Practitioners Association.

Monday, January 30

Jazz vocalist and music educator **MJ Territo** will lead a stimulating, fun-filled hour of learning about jazz and blues. We'll warm up by listening to recorded music that will illustrate the history and importance of jazz in American culture and history. Then we'll sing, scat (improvised singing without words) and create an original blues tune.



SOLD

Better Homes and Gardens
REAL ESTATE

RAND REALTY

EXPECT BETTER
Buying, Selling or Renting
CALL ME
Serving Westchester & Connecticut

RICHARD GUTNER
Real Estate Associate Broker
914.643.1560

Email: richard.gutner@randrealty.com | www.richardgutner.randrealty.com

SAVE THE DATES!
CJL ISRAEL VACATION CAMP
FOR GRADES K-6
FEBRUARY 23-24, 2017



Give your child a taste of Israel and two fun-filled vacation days without leaving New York! Experience Israeli cooking, crafts, sports and more at Community Synagogue of Rye. Grades 9-12: Apply to be a Jr. Counselor and receive a stipend.

Watch your email for registration information.

NONPROFIT ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 WHITE PLAINS, NY
 PERMIT NO. 1062

Address Service Requested

Community Synagogue of Rye has a variety of funds which are used to enrich our congregation.

You may wish to make a contribution in honor or in memory of someone or to celebrate a joyous occasion (birth, *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*, Confirmation, wedding, anniversary). The funds are listed on the right.

I (We) wish to make a special contribution of \$ _____ to the _____ Fund.

In Honor of _____
 Occasion _____

In Memory of _____
 Relationship _____
 Donor's Name (s) _____

Donor's Address _____

Donor's Phone _____

Donor's Email _____

Please send an acknowledgement note to:

Name _____

Address _____

Your gift is tax deductible to the extent of the law. Please mail and make checks payable to Community Synagogue of Rye.

Endowment Funds

- David & Iris Sampliner Youth Leadership Development Fund
- Etz Ha Dorot* Endowment Fund
- Goodkind Scholar-in-Residence Fund
- The Obrasky Fund
- Pond & Beyond Fund
- Reform Jewish Commitment (RJC) Fund
- Victor & Marjorie Wolder Fund in memory of Herbert Millman
- Victor & Marjorie Wolder Joy of Living Fund

Restricted Funds

- Adult Education (Cecele Fraenkel Memorial) Fund
- Beautification Fund
- Cantor Cooperman's Discretionary Fund
- Early Childhood Center Enrichment Fund
- Grayer Teen Initiative Fund
- Hesed* Fund
- Israel Action Fund
- Israel Trip Fund for Teens
- Kol Nashim* (Women's Programming) Fund
- Marilyn Zelman Early Childhood Center Scholarship Fund
- Michael Ginsberg Memorial Library Fund
- PJ Library@ Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Rabbi Frankel's Discretionary Fund
- Rabbi Gropper's Discretionary Fund
- Religious School Enrichment Fund
- Religious School Special Education Fund
- SAJE (Senior Activities in a Jewish Environment) Fund
- Social Action Fund
- Steven Harry Klein Membership Fund
- Synagogue Fund
- Yahrzeit* Fund

Learn more about these funds at comsynrye.org/csr-funds