WE ARE HONORED TO WELCOME MIKE HOLLANDER FOR A SERIES OF LECTURES IN HONOR OF ISRAEL’S 70TH!

Mike Hollander was born in Canada and made aliyah in 1988. He has a BA in History and an MA in Jewish-Christian Relations. Jewish education has always been Mike’s passion and he began work as a guide in 1994. His areas of expertise include history, politics, Middle Eastern studies and interfaith studies.

Go to Page 12 for more info...
Community Synagogue of Rye

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
Rabbi ......................................................... Daniel B. Gropper
Rabbi ......................................................... Leora Frankel
Cantor ......................................................... Melanie Cooperman
Rabbi Emeritus ............................ Robert A. Rothman
Executive Director ......................... Glynis Conyer
CJL Director ................................. Amy Rosenbaum
Director of Youth Engagement, And Informal Learning .... Yael Farber
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 Secretary .......... Michele Fredman
Immediate Past President ...... Gerald Cohen

Trustees
Michael Bertisch, Jeff Cammisa, Donna DeLynn, Felicia DePaola, Stephen Fisch, Abby Katz, Pan Kerlan, Lloyd Mallah, Mickey Marks, Julie Schuster, Jamie Schutzer, Jill Serin, Mark Singer, Ben Slavin, 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-Editors .................. Jackie Christal
................................. Joanne Steinhart
................................. Ruth Harmon
Layout and Design ........ Jeff Frumess

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

Condolences

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

Our congregation mourns the passing of:

Pearl Lawrence, mother of David Lawrence
Barbara Heller Kahn, mother of James Kahn
Frank Sands, father of Jackie Orris

First Friday Torah Study at 7 am

Next Session: January 5
at Le Pain Quotidien
30 Purchase St, Rye

The monthly Torah study sessions are designed to allow working members of the synagogue to squeeze in some Torah study before the start of the workday. They are held on the first Friday morning of the month and last roughly an hour. Torah texts are also available for use.

We hope you can join us (no RSVP required, just come).
## January 2018 Calendar

### Monday, January 1
- All Day: New Year’s Day
  - Office Closed
  - ECC Closed
  - CJL Closed

### Wednesday, January 3
- 4:00 pm: ECC, Grades K-7

### Thursday, January 4
- 10:00 am: Talmud with Training Wheels
- 11:15 pm: SAJE—Offsite, Atria
- 8:00 pm: CSR Book Club—Offsite

### Friday, January 5
- 7:00 am: First Friday Torah Study—Offsite, La Pain Quotidien
- 9:20 am: ECC Shabbat
- 1:00 pm: RAC Trip, 10th Graders—Offsite
- 6:30 pm: Shabbat Services* & College Reunion Shabbat

### Saturday, January 6
- All Day: RAC Trip, 10th Graders—Offsite
- 8:45 am: Torah Study Service*
  - CJL Grades 3-6
  - CJL Youth Services
- 11:15 am: Shelby Gellman, Bat Mitzvah—Offsite
  - Congregation Emmanul

### Sunday, January 7
- All Day: RAC Trip, 10th Graders—Offsite

### Monday, January 8
- All Day: RAC Trip, 10th Graders—Offsite
- 9:30 am: The Nature of Things
- 11:15 am: SAJE
- 1:45 pm: Havdalah Service for ECC families
- 6:15 pm: 11th and 12th Graders Home for the Holidays: Q&A with CSR College Students
  - 7th Grade and CSR Teens
- 1:45 pm: Board of Trustees Meeting

### Wednesday, January 10
- 4:00 pm: CJL, Grades K-7
  - CJL K-2 Challah Bake
- 8:00 pm: Band Rehearsal with T'fillah Band—Offsite

### Thursday, January 11
- 11:15 am: SAJE—Offsite, Atria
- 5:30 pm: COSY Board Meeting
- 6:00 pm: Film Class—Offsite, The Ambassador

### Friday, January 12
- 9:00 am: ECC Yoga
- 9:20 am: ECC Shabbat
- 6:00 pm: Re-Soul for Shabbat*
- 6:30 pm: Shabbat Services with T’fillah Band*
  - With Guest Speaker, Josh Cohn—Mayor of Rye

### Saturday, January 13
- 8:45 am: Torah Study Service*
  - CJL Grades 3-6
  - CJL Youth Services
- 5:00 pm: Jake Minick, Bar Mitzvah—Offsite
  - Congregation Emmanul

### Monday, January 15
- All Day: Martin Luther King Day
  - Office Closed
  - ECC Closed
  - CJL Closed
- 10:00 am: Social Action MONDAY: MLK Day Interfaith Volunteer Opportunity with J-Teen Leadership & The AFYA Foundation

### Wednesday, January 17
- 4:00 pm: CJL, Grades K-7
- 6:00 pm: Madrichim Meeting

### Thursday, January 18
- 11:15 pm: SAJE—Offsite, Atria
- 7:30 pm: We Persist: Have Some Wine & Make A Sign!

### Friday, January 19
- 9:20 am: ECC Shabbat
- 6:30 pm: Shabbat Services*

---

*= Offsite—Chapel at Rye Presbyterian Church

---

www.comsynrye.org
CSR AT 70
Rabbi Daniel Gropper • Dgropper@comsynrye.org

King David lived almost his entire life on borrowed time. The Midrash explains that Adam was originally destined to live for 1000 years, as decreed: “today you will die.” When Adam saw all the souls that were destined to come down to the world, he saw that King David was destined to live for only 7 hours, so he gave him 70 years of his own. Therefore, Adam lived for 930 years and King David lived for 70.

Out of this, Jewish tradition has long held the period of three score and ten is significant, with the Psalmist alloting it as the years of a person’s life, and the Mishna (Avot 5:32) as the age of strength. Some of the ways the number 70 shows up in Jewish tradition and teachings include:

- There is a core of 70 nations and 70 world languages
- According to the Midrash, there are 70 perspectives (“faces”) to the Torah (Numbers Rabbah 13:15)
- Seventy elders were assembled by Moses on God’s command in the desert (Numbers 11:16-30)
- There were 70 men in the Great Sanhedrin, the Supreme Court of ancient Israel. (Sanhedrin 1:4.)

Why am I spending all this time making these references to 70? Because my friends, 2018 is the 70th year for two very significant institutions in our Jewish lives: The State of Israel and your Community Synagogue of Rye.

Israel was founded by Jews who had long dreamed of having their own land “to be a free people in our land, the Land of Zion and Jerusalem.” (Israeli National Anthem). Community Synagogue of Rye was founded by 10 families who dreamed of a place to raise their children in the Jewish heritage, to instill Jewish values in them and to give them the tools and resources to be God’s partner in healing the world.

We have come a long way since 1948. Israel is far from perfect. Peace with the Palestinians still eludes her and it feels like there is a widening gap between those in power who could broach some form of conciliation and peace. Still, we continue to strive for peace in a land where two peoples reside and two peoples now need a land to call their own.

Community Synagogue of Rye is also far from perfect. But we keep looking to the future with vision and hope to become the caring Jewish community that adds meaning and purpose to your life. Like Israel we keep striving, we keep experimenting, we keep listening, we keep bringing Torah into our lives. We now engage households throughout the cycle of life from our ECC and Sharing Shabbat through SAJE and all our adult learning and social action opportunities. All this is to inspire you to bring Judaism into your lives and to see how Judaism can help answer the questions of daily life.

Over the course of this year, we hope to bring you highlights from the past 70 years of Community Synagogue. We hope you will feel a deeper connection to this congregation that has long sought to bring the voice of Reform Judaism to this little corner of the world, and has long aspired to be a force for good in the communities it serves and beyond.

We hope you enjoy this trip down memory lane. We pray it will inspire you to dream with us about what the next 70 years will look like. We hope it serves as a reminder of your connection to Community Synagogue and ultimately, how we bring the dream of making the world a better place to all who call her home.

Wishing you a very Happy (secular) New Year!

L’Shalom,

Rabbi Daniel Gropper
For those of you who are familiar with the URJ (Union for Reform Judaism), the parent organization of the Reform Movement, you may know that every two years we hold a Biennial Event that brings together more than 5,000 clergy, congregants, lay leaders, young adults and families who all share the core values of Reform Judaism.

The Biennial offers participants the opportunity to study, pray, sing, dance, worship and learn in a supportive and engaging environment. We were very fortunate to have ten congregants, as well as Rabbi Frankel and our Youth Director, Yael Farber, attend this event in Boston from December 6-10.

The Biennial focused on an overarching theme this year, Reimagining Jewish Life, and included additional daily themes of Diversity, Innovation, Action, Faith and Community. With large morning and evening plenary sessions, and smaller workshops and individual sessions, one could explore a variety of new ideas with friends, colleagues and thought leaders. Many of the sessions were identified by their specific focus, which helped the participants find those areas that best served their interests and responsibilities. Some of the tracks included:

- Strengthening Congregations (the workshops that I felt most drawn to)
- Youth Engagement: from generation to generation
- Audacious Hospitality: welcome everyone with joy
- Tikkun Olam: social justice and action to aid the wronged
- Transforming Texts: study of the Torah

Because we had a diversity of participants, we were able to take advantage of a broad swath of programming and then often came together in the evening or over dinner to share our experiences and learnings.

One of the many highlights of the weekend was a lovely Shabbat dinner on Friday night with our CSR delegation. All of us felt blessed to be together to break bread, share wine, and to welcome in Shabbat. Following dinner, 5,000 of our closest friends gathered in the large auditorium to read the traditional prayers and hear the familiar melodies of our services—albeit through a different lens.

How moving to hear the d’var torah of other clergy, to be inspired by new voices and a choir of cantors, and to have our minds expanded by the newest thinking in our Reform movement. Just to give you an idea of trends that are being explored, here are the titles of some of the well-attended sessions:

- Disabilities Inclusion: Lessons from Camps and Congregations
- LGBTQ Inclusion in the Reform Movement: Moving to the Next Level
- Mission Driven Budgets: A Tool to Promote Sound Decision Making
- Volunteers: How to Get Them and Keep Them Engaged
- How to Create a Culture of Philanthropy in Your Congregation
- Better Together: Teens, Congregations, and Tikkun Olam

Obviously, there is so much more than can be effectively described in just a few paragraphs. What were my key take aways? That Community Synagogue of Rye is a vibrant and innovative congregation, but with the capacity to do even more. We can enlarge our programs to attract the youngest families and learners, while keeping our teens and young adults engaged. We can rethink some of our strategic assumptions and make reasoned decisions that are both fiscally responsible and mission driven. And we can reach out to all of the constituents in our congregation to be sure that they are treated with dignity, respect and inclusion. And lastly, we can elevate our interactions with each other to sacred partnerships so that the work we do is both gratifying and holy. Wouldn’t that be a lovely thought?

Some of us came back from our days in Boston inspired, motivated, invigorated or just plain exhausted! Others felt like they had been in camp for a week, or back in school or college connecting with old friends. While still others felt empowered to work harder and share some fresh ideas and new perspectives with one another. You may look forward to seeing some innovative concepts percolating through our community in the months ahead.

And mark your calendars for December 2019 when we reconvene in Chicago.

With best wishes for the New Year,
Community Synagogue Celebrates 70 Years of Musical Tradition

Cantor Melanie Cooperman • mcooperman@comsynrye.org

David and Iris Sampliner have been part of Community Synagogue of Rye since 1961. Throughout those fifty-seven years, the Sampliners have served this community in many different roles. As many of you know, David is also the unofficial musical chronicler of the history of CSR; he has written many songs that have been performed at CSR including at Purim celebrations and, recently, at the gala honoring Rabbi Rothman. When I first became your Cantor in 2011, I heard about this particular song—a fun, parody tune which recounts the many Cantors who have served this Community. Years later, I’m thrilled to be included in this updated version of the song.

Community Synagogue Cantors
(to the tune of Memory from Cats)

Cantors, we’ve had several cantors
All of them brought their music
To our synagogue life
Just as soon as we learned
How to sing and stay in their range
Something happened—something strange.

Names like Bertram Allen, Shel Merel,
Ian Crossman, Jules Gabler
Now appear fast and hard
Richard Brown sang, Ron Brodin
And Paul Kwartin appear.
Norman Swerling, Debby Bard.

Helene Reps—don’t forget Rochelle Nelson
Bruce HaLev, Ooren Zeitlin,
Also Meredith Stone,
Now John Haddon was someone whose sweet
voice we admired
Roger Ensign sang alone.

Eight years is the recognized record
For longevity here

Where cantors sang clear and loud
Donna Goldstein, Jon Comisar,
And Haddon and Reps
These fine singers made us proud.

Next came a great singer Dan Mutlu
When he left we required
A successful new plan
We were trying to find
A new magnificent voice
We acquired Cooperman

Cantors we’ve had nineteen cantors
In the very same time frame
As four rabbis appearing
That relation is one that home folk
Can’t understand
But we’ll find out, never fear

Cantors made our services glisten
With their voices so golden—
in a silver clad tone
When our own prayer must bring our special
Message to God
We can’t do it—not alone.

Film Class with Cantor Cooperman

Fill The Void (2012)

When the older sister of Shira, an 18-year-old Hasidic Israeli, dies suddenly in childbirth, Shira must decide if she can and should marry her widowed brother-in-law, which also generates tensions within her extended family.

The award winning film was written and directed by Rama Burshtein, a female Orthodox Jewish Filmmaker from New York City.

Thursday, January 11
Dinner—6:00–6:30
Fill the Void—6:30–8:00
Discussion—8:00–9:00

The Ambassador
9 Saxon Wood Rd, White Plains, NY 10605

RSVP to
clergyasstant@comsynrye.org
**Tzedek Council Corner**

The Tzedek team is committed to making an impact in our world. Here are some of the highlights showcasing our recent efforts:

- On December 25, a group of CSR volunteers led by Robin Blum prepared and delivered meals to people in need in the Bronx.
- CSR Reads program, led by Jim DeWinter and Rhoda Steinberg, has been meeting at Park Ave School in Port Chester. This important group of volunteers has been teaching children to read and gain comprehension skills for many years.
- Refugee Project is led by Laura Leach and includes a team of volunteers who are helping a family from Afghanistan adjust to life in White Plains. This family of four has received help with education, employment, healthcare, housing and community connections.
- Dinner at Noon, under the leadership of Marlena Schaeffer, continues to feed the hungry in Westchester. Some of our religious school children, teens and B’nai Mitzvah have contributed to this project by preparing food to donate.
- Our Hesed committee, led by Shelley Simon, continues to reach out to those in our community who are struggling with illness, injury or loss. If you are interested in joining her efforts, we are always looking for volunteers to offer rides, a meal, or even a phone call.

**Upcoming Tzedek Council Events**

**Dinner at Noon**

Volunteers from Community Synagogue of Rye gather at the Carver Center on six Saturdays during the school year to prepare and serve a delicious, multi-course meal to Port Chester residents in need. Many of the guests come regularly and we enjoy seeing them and reconnecting at each meal. The guests range in age from mothers with young children to the elderly.

All the food we serve is donated. We need fresh fruit and baked goods for each gathering. We also need side dishes and vegetable dishes for some gatherings. If you would like to donate, or to learn more, please contact Marlena Schaeffer, Dinner at Noon Leader, at marschaefferaol.com. The remaining dates are February 10, March 24, May 5, and June 16.

**WE PERSIST**

**WOMEN’S MARCH IN NYC! WE PERSIST and CSR will march together as a group!**

**SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, JANUARY 20**

On January 20 NYC will raise its voice again to demand equality for all humans at the 2018 Women’s March on NYC.

Over the past year, basic rights for women, immigrants, LGBTQ+, the religious and nonreligious, people of color and even Mother Earth have struggled to survive under the weight of the current administration. America’s First Amendment has been challenged and healthcare for millions has been threatened. We must stand together to demand and defend our rights. Let your voice echo from the streets of New York City to the capital city. Show the world that red, white and blue are colors of tolerance.

**HAVE SOME WINE & MAKE A SIGN!**

**Thursday, January 18 7:30 pm—9:30 pm**

Join us to: Celebrate our Achievements, socialize & catch up, share ideas for 2018, and make signs for the Women’s March in NYC 2018. You bring the ideas, we’ll bring the supplies! Don’t want to make a sign? Just join us for the wine (or a non-alcoholic beverage)! $10/person at the door. Light refreshments, beverages, poster board & markers provided! Please rsvp to attend so we can plan accordingly!  

https://actionnetwork.org/events/have-some-wine-make-a-sign

**Green Team Tu B’Shevat Seder**

6:30 pm Sunday January 28 at Congregation KTI—Social Hall  
575 King St, Port Chester, NY, 10573

CSR Green Team hosts the annual Tu B’Shevat Seder, which incorporates readings about trees and fruit from a range of Jewish literature. Modeled on the Passover Seder, it will include four cups of wine, with varying combinations of red and white, representing the shifting of yearly seasons. We will share a vegetarian pot-luck meal with traditional dishes featuring fruits and vegetables mentioned in the Torah.

RSVP to Donna DeLynn at ddelynn@optonline.net  
(914) 937-0648  

www.comsynrye.org
CSR READS IS HONORED

Our CSR Reads reading program was honored at the Port Chester Board of Education meeting on December 12 recognizing the work we have done at the Park Avenue School. Principal Rosa Taylor thanked and acknowledged the important contribution of our dedicated volunteers who work with students in the second and third grades providing support with their reading skills. In the eight years of the program, nearly one hundred students have benefited from this most rewarding partnership with the Park Avenue School.

Pictured are

Rhoda Steinberg
Mugs Zales
Lori Babat
Kathy Finkelstein
Judy Belkin
Lauren Leighton
Terry Zingman
Debbie Klein
Sue Ellen Goldman
Jim de Winter

The Rye Women’s Interfaith Annual Conference & Reception

Sunday, January 21, 2018
3:00 pm - Registration - 3:30 pm - Program
Rye Presbyterian Church
882 Boston Post Road, Rye, NY 10580

“Women Under Threat—Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking” Featuring Kym McNair

Kym McNair is the Coordinator for Community Education and Engagement for My Sisters’ Place, a domestic violence agency located in Westchester County, New York. She facilitates trainings throughout Westchester County for health care professionals, law enforcement, college students, and religious communities to help them recognize and respond to Domestic/Intimate Partner violence in their professional and personal lives.

Conference & Reception - $15.00 (Not refundable).
Snow date: January 28. Please send your check with your reservation slip below before Wednesday, January 17, 2018. For more information, please call Caroll at (914) 967-8353 or Lynn at (914) 921-0177.

Check payable to:
Rye Women’s Interfaith Committee
Mrs. Marianne Egan
9 Plymouth Road
Rye, New York 10580
This point in the calendar always feels like the unofficial half way point in the school year. So, it is the right time to reconnect and update you on some wonderful things happening in the ECC.

The ECC is full of creative energy and our teachers have been doing a terrific job. The Twos are all happy and adorable having successfully passed the separation stage with flying colors. The Threes are playing together so well and understanding what it means to be part of a community. The Fours are super busy as always and have reached the midway point of their alphabet journeys. The Pre-K children have turned into author illustrators and are having a wonderful time creating their own books.

So Many Thanks
Thank you, thank you for all the wonderful donations made to our holiday food drive. Your generosity has provided so many, much needed items to the Food Bank of Westchester.

Thank you also, for your kindness and appreciation to all of the ECC staff, including Barry. It feels so much like a family here and we are so grateful to all of you.

Enrollment for 2018/2019 School Year
If you plan on returning to the ECC next year and have not provided me with your enrollment forms, please do so as soon as possible. We have begun enrolling new families and some of our classes are already close to filling up.

Summer Camp
I am very excited to inform you that the ECC will once again be offering a diaper-friendly summer camp in 2018. Our camp is for children aged 2 ½ to 3 years old and typically includes children who have just completed a Two’s program. While we encourage our littlest ECC children to attend, we also welcome families not enrolled in the ECC so feel free to pass the word along. More information will be distributed right after the break.

ECC Parents Association
The Parents Association is busy planning for the new year, including a really fun event at the Westchester Children’s Museum on February 3. Be on the lookout for more information once we return from the break.

Community Outreach
We are always on the lookout for age appropriate opportunities that teach our children the value of giving and sharing. Helping Hands is an umbrella organization comprised of all of the Rye churches as well as Community Synagogue. It is responsible for coordinating the Dinner at Noon program, which serves hot, nourishing meals every other Saturday at the Carver Center throughout the school year. ECC alumnae mom, Deborah Golub, is helping coordinate our Fours and Pre-K classes who are very excited to be participating in this effort again this year. The children will be creating a variety of centerpieces and baking cookies several times over the next few months.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a healthy and happy 2018. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

---

**ECC Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2</td>
<td>ECC Reopens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>ECC Closed for MLK Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Heller-Wexler Family Camps**

**Family Ski Weekend**

---

**Calling all new members, parents of ECC 4-5 year olds, and K-2 CJL kids!**

Join us on January 21, from 1:00 pm—2:30 pm, for an afternoon of connecting with other CSR families, while your kids enjoy a complimentary yoga class at Total Fusion in Harrison. Light snacks will be served.

Everyone who registers for this event will receive one “free class pass.”

A raffle will be held for 2 lucky winners:

- A free kids-pack of yoga classes (6 classes)
- A free month of adult classes

Please rsvp by 1/7/18 to clergyassistant@comsynrye.org
College Reunion Shabbat
Friday night, January 5, 2018

Calling all current CSR College students! Join us for a special Shabbat service and dinner with the clergy if you’re still home on Winter Break. We can’t wait to hear how you’re doing and reconnect!

6:30 pm—7:30 pm Musical Shabbat service with reflections from students
The Chapel at Rye Presbyterian Church, 882 Boston Post Road in Rye

7:45 pm—9:00 pm Shabbat dinner with the clergy at a local home
Please RSVP by January 1 to Rabbi Frankel (lfrankel@comsynrye.org) for dinner we can plan accordingly!

CJL AND J-LIFE IMPORTANT DATES
January 1 NO SCHOOL- New Year’s Day
January 15 NO SCHOOL- MLK Jr Day
January 20 3rd Grade Shabbaton
January 24 6th Grade Living Museum
January 27 J-Life: 4th Grade
January 31 Last Wednesday class for 7th Grade
(Monday classes continue through May)

COSY & CSR TEENS UPCOMING EVENTS
January 15 COSY Social Action Monday 10:00 am—1:00 pm
MLK Day Interfaith Volunteer Opportunity with J-Teen Leadership & The AFYA Foundation
RSVP to Yael at COSY@comsynrye.org.
**Our B’nei Mitzvah**

**Jake Minick**

My name is Jake Minick and I will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 13. I am the son of Michael and Michele Minick and have two older brothers, Alec and Chad. I am a seventh grader at Blind Brook Middle School and I enjoy football and lacrosse. My Torah portion is Bo from the Book of Exodus. This is the story of when Moses is sent down the Nile River in a basket and gets found by Pharaoh’s daughter, who chooses to keep him and raise him as her own. For my mitzvah project, I have volunteered at the Don Bosco Center in Port Chester. I helped children with their homework. Many of these children don’t speak English and rely on the center to get help they may not otherwise get. I enjoyed getting to know these children and hope to continue helping them.

**Max Greenspan**

My name is Max Greenspan and I will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 20. I am a seventh grader at Rye Middle School. My parents are Lisa and Eric Greenspan and I have a younger brother, Henry. I enjoy playing baseball, jumping on my trampoline and skeet shooting. My Torah portion is Sefer Yitzchot Mitzraim in the Book of Exodus. It is about how the exodus molded the Jewish people. For my mitzvah project, I have been volunteering at the Rye Nature Center once a week caring for their animals. I chose Rye Nature Center because I am passionate about nature and animals.

**Shelby Gellman**

My name is Shelby Gellman and I will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on January 6. I am the daughter of Sharon Gellman and Sean Com. I am a seventh grader at Rye Neck Middle School and I enjoy dancing, running/track, and playing volleyball. My Torah portion is Sh’mot from the Book of Exodus. This is the story of when Moses is sent down the Nile River in a basket and gets found by Pharaoh’s daughter, who chooses to keep him and raise him as her own. For my mitzvah project, I arranged dance performances with some friends from my dance class at a few elderly living centers. To prepare, we rehearsed together before class a few weeks and modified some of our recital dances with our teacher so that we could perform them. I chose this project because I feel that the elderly get overlooked sometimes, and I wanted to do something to bring them happiness and joy. Everyone was so happy and willing to assist with this project so I am very grateful.

---

**Temple Sholom’s Party Planning Showcase & Mitzvah Project Fair**

**Free and open to the community!**

Sunday, January 7, 2018 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
at Temple Sholom
300 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT

Temple Sholom’s free Party Planning Showcase features more than 30 experienced vendors in the areas of entertainment, photography, flowers, venues/hotels, catering, dessert, invitations, party favors, and more!

B’nei Mitzvah families will also have the opportunity to connect with representatives from different organizations about community service projects both locally and abroad at the Mitzvah Project Fair.

Register: https://2018-party-showcase.eventbrite.com

To see our B’nei Mitzvah every Friday.
The next gathering of the 
**CSR BOOK CLUB**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 4th at 8:00pm**
location TBD
BOOK: “Sing, Unburied, Sing” by Jesmyn Ward
Rabbi Frankel will facilitate interesting discussions over wine, cheese, and other creative snacks as we explore the layers of a novel while connecting them to relevant and relatable Jewish texts.

**Everyone is welcome!**

RSVP to clergyassistant@comsynrye.org.
Have questions? Contact Jacey Taub at jaceyg@aol.com

---

**TALMUD WITH TRAINING WHEELS**

The *Talmud* is one of the foundational texts of Judaism. However, many of us may not feel like experts when it comes to this vital canon. In fact, it can be said that more than we are biblical Jews, we are rabbinic Jews following the laws and guidelines set out in the *Talmud*. Together we will explore the history and structure of the *Talmud* and rabbinic thought as well as the rabbis’ profound insights into human nature. No prior experience required!

**Talmud with Training Wheels Dates**
10—11:30 am at CSR:
Jan 4, 2018—Jan 25, 2018
Feb 8, 2018—Mar 1, 2018—Mar 15, 2018

Interested in attending? Please email clergy assistant Jon Rekedal at clergyassistant@comsynrye.org. Jon will let you know where the class is being held. During our construction project, at times when the ECC is in session, the state licensing authority asks staff members to escort all adults through the school building. Thank you for your understanding.

---

**MIDE HOLLANDER LECTURES IN HONOR OF ISRAEL’S 70TH**

Mike Hollander will be streaming with us on January 13 at 10:30 am following our Shabbat Morning Torah study service.

His topic will be: “We are Living in Interesting Times.” The milestones of 2017. Why was 2017 such a significant year? And what can we expect for 2018?

---

**Mike Hollander Lectures in Honor of Israel’s 70th**

**MEDITATION. MINDFULNESS. BALANCE.**

**Re-soul for Shabbat.**

Using meditation practices, mindfulness skills and some simple *Mussar* texts, we will sit, mostly in silence and contemplation to wind down from the week and lift us into *Shabbat*. Please join Rabbi Gropper from 6 to 6:20 p.m. on Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 13 and May 18 to welcome in the spirit of *Shabbat*. You are then invited to remain for regular *Shabbat* worship at 6:30 pm.

**The topic for January is Bitachon—Trust**

Re-soul for *Shabbat* will take place at the Chapel at Rye Presbyterian Church, the same location for Friday night services. 882 Boston Post Rd, Rye, NY 10580.

If you are interested in attending, or would like more information, please email clergyassistant@comsynrye.org.
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 11:15 am and 1:15 pm and includes lunch after the program. You are always welcome to bring a friend.

Thursday, January 4
Dine Around—TBD

Monday, January 8
SAJE welcomes Patricia Cipora Harte, Director of Westchester DOROT. Since 2004, DOROT’s Westchester programs have effectively combated social isolation among older adults in the county with food deliveries, weekly volunteer visits, intergenerational Shabbat celebrations, youth programs, and teleconference classes and support groups. Programs include Friendly Visiting, Holiday Package Deliveries, University without Walls, Shabbat Shalom Westchester and Intergenerational Chess.

Thursday, January 11 @ The Atria
Ben Z. Horowitz has owned BZH Appraisal & Consulting Associates since 1985. He will talk with us about his longtime expertise in evaluating Jewish antiques. To accurately assess items, BZH appraisers study markets, attend auctions, examine catalogs and trade papers and are involved with professional organizations, museums and libraries. BZH clients include museums, galleries, charities, government agencies, financial, insurance and law firms, estates, artists, and private collectors. Our program will conclude with a Mini Antique Judaica Roadshow. SAJE invites you to bring Jewish items for appraisal, accompanied by a 3 x 5 card for each piece on which you’ve written what you know about the item.

Monday, January 15
NO SAJE

Thursday, January 18 @ The Atria
With a BA in Psychology, and a MA in Industrial Relations, Kristen Rzasa spent the first 15 years of her career in Human Resources and Leadership Development. In 2002 following a corporate layoff, she decided to become a full-time entrepreneur and opened the Jazzercise Fitness Center of Stamford, CT, which consistently ranked in the top five in New England and in the top 50 worldwide. In 2013 she became a MELT Method practitioner. Combining hands off body work and essential oils, she has helped clients obtain powerful results, including eliminating chronic pain and fatigue with natural solutions. Kristen will share her knowledge of essential oils for chronic pain and other benefits.

Monday, January 22
Join SAJE for a Musical Theater sing along with acclaimed composer and teacher Elliot Weiss, composer of Bittersuite: Songs of Experience and Dori: The Life and Times of Theodore Herzl. Explore the history of the musicals and composers as you sing along to new, rare, familiar and old show tunes. Test your knowledge with an interactive musical question and answer session! Most of all, bring your singing voices and have fun!
ADULT EDUCATION FUND (CECELE FRAENKEL MEMORIAL) FUND
Janice & Stephen Adachi & Family in memory of
Kenneth Hirsch

BEAUTIFICATION FUND
Sandra Feinstein in memory of Murray Finkelstein

Cantor Cooperman’s DISCRETIONARY FUND
Tal, Sharon, Lior, Jonah, Alex & Noah Gurion in appreciation to Cantor Cooperman for Lior’s Bar Mitzvah

DAVID & IRIS SAMPLINER YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND
Frances Gilberg in memory of Irving Feit

KADIMA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
Cindy Valk-Danish & Leslie Danish in honor of the marriage of their daughter Sara Danish to Jennifer Unterberg
Leslie & Mitchell Levy
Mitchell Berns
Ellen & Howard Deixler
Carol & Gerald Cohen in memory of Pearl Lawrence, mother of David Lawrence
Arnold Handwerger
Robin & Peter Klein
Alyse & Matthew Rosen
Tatyana & Matvey Yalovitser
Alexandra & Steven Pearlman
Sandra & Kenneth Weissberg
Stephanie & Steven Roth in memory of Pearl Lawrence, mother of David Lawrence

RABBI FRANKEL’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Tal, Sharon, Lior, Jonah, Alex & Noah Gurion in appreciation to Rabbi Frankel for Lior’s Bar Mitzvah

RABBI GROPPER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Jill & Jimmy Feldesman in memory of Lucille Feldesman
Claire Schackman in memory of Ira Schackman
Marianne & Richard Goldstein in memory of Murray Goldstein
Tal, Sharon, Lior, Jonah, Alex & Noah Gurion in appreciation to Rabbi Gropper for Lior’s Bar Mitzvah

REFORM JEWISH COMMITMENT (RJC) FUND
Joan & Ron Cohen in memory of Pearl Lawrence, mother of David Lawrence

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT (SAJE) FUND
Erna Kahan in honor of Elaine Lerner for all her weekly updates
Arthur Leibowitz
Iris & David Sampliner

SOCIAL ACTION FUND
Joan Levinson in memory of Vivian and Jack Kabcenell

SYNAGOGUE FUND
Marilyn & Michael Ratner in memory of Massimo Borghini, father of Alice Borghini
In memory of Micheline Hahn
Suzanne & Harold Greenberg
Louise & Bob Hersh
Marilyn Miller in memory of Sidney Miller
Susan & Norman Cieclsky in memory of Pearl Lawrence, mother of David Lawrence

For the Scholarship Fund for children’s Jewish education
Mildred Weissman
Diana & Howard Wendy
Robin & Lawrence Green
Leonard August
Heather & Neeraj Khemlani
Caryl & Gilbert Weinstein
Sandy & Joe Samberg
Sue Ellen & Peter Goldman
Ellen & Howard Deixler
Michele & Neil Fredman
Dana & Marc Zimmerman
Joan Furman in memory of Frank Furman, Frances and William Baumgarten
Laurie & John Frolich
Amy & Stephen Fisch
Marilyn Miller

YAHRIEIT FUND
The Handwerger Family
Wendy & James Schutzer in memory of Harriet Schutzer

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR TEMPLE YOUTH
Once again this year the Sampliner Youth Leadership Development Fund is making camp scholarships available to young people who are planning to attend either the Eisner Camp or the Crane Lake Camp in Massachusetts, Kutz Camp in Warwick, NY., or the NFTY Summer Program in Israel. These programs are run by the Union for Reform Judaism, the umbrella organization of all reform congregations in the United States and Canada. These scholarships are not based on need. Since the scholarship funds are limited, and were originally intended to support attendance at URJ Camps, priority will be given for attendance at those Camps. All applications are due by February 10; if there are funds still available for other Jewish Camps, they will be honored.

The Eisner Camp and the Crane Lake Camp offer programs for children seven to seventeen years of age. Each day includes sports, recreation, swimming, theater, crafts, and programs designed to foster a solid Jewish living experience.

Every summer, teens from all over North America become leaders at the NFTY Leadership Academy at Kutz Camp in Warwick, NY. Teens come to join this college campus style community, selecting experiences in theater, song leading, visual arts, Jewish studies, social action, youth group leadership programming, and more.

Thousands of Reform high school and college youth have enjoyed summers in Israel. NFTY combines travel, learning, and Jewish identity building in Israel while ensuring the highest standards of health, safety and security.

The Scholarships come in denominations of $250.00 or $500.00. Application should be made to the Fund c/o Iris & David Sampliner.

For further information call the Sampliners at 914-939-0349.

The experience of a summer immersed in Judaism cannot be too highly praised. Youngsters who have been to any of the three programs have come back enthusiastic, involved, and furnish us with an outstanding corps of young leaders for our synagogue.
CSR Time Machine

70 years ago in 1948...

A Penny's Worth

By G. Kipnis

A penny's not a lot of money, but you'll be surprised at how much of some things it will buy.

20 Pages!
A penny buys 20 pages of big city newspaper, providing several hours of reading material.

1 Ton
A penny will move a one-ton shipment of merchandise by air express nearly a hundred feet.

3/4 Mile
A penny's worth of gas will drive a two-ton automobile with four people about 4,000 feet.

10,000 Miles!
A penny stamp will deliver a card across the United States and over the Pacific to Guam.

News

Music

Education

Politics

A penny will buy over seven hours of radio entertainment by top-price big-name performers.

50 Gallons
A penny will buy 50 gallons of tested, healthful water, delivered by pipe into your home.

A penny will buy enough gas to fry an egg for each of 72 persons, doing them four at a time.

A penny will buy enough current to illuminate a room (60-watt bulb) for four full nights.
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