SYNAGOGUE ANNOUNCES HIGHEST TIER MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Trustees, in order to assure the financial future of our synagogue, has created the ultimate level of membership. Known as THE MILLION DOLLAR MENSCH, or THE PLATINUM HEB LEVEL, this membership is available to those congregants willing to pony up $1.8 million per year. The package entitles its participants to a choice of one of two benefits packages:

PACKAGE 1:
- Weekly in-home Shabbat massages for four
- Helicopter transportation to and from High Holy Day services at Purchase College
- A break-fast meal for 120 from Balducci’s
- A bar or bat mitzvah performance by your choice of: Justin Beiber /Beyonce/or Shecky Green, age 90, the last remaining Borscht Belt comic

OR

PACKAGE 2: 2 Mezzanine tickets to Hamilton

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, March 12
Rabbi Lemme Kutzimoff presents

BRIS-TLING WITH PRIDE, A Mohel Gives You His Best Tips

Sponsored by The CSR Men’s Club
RABBI PROTECTION PLAN UNVEILED

Still aching from the freak accidents that incapacitated Rabbis Frankel and Gropper last summer, the Board of Trustees recently approved our synagogue’s first Rabbi Protection Plan.

Israeli clergy security expert Izzy Safir explained the plan’s three key elements:

The rabbis and cantor will be encased in bubble wrap from July 1 through the closing service on Yom Kippur. There will be a once-weekly opportunity for congregants to pop their religious leaders, but no popping will be permitted on Shabbat.

Rabbi Emeritus Robert Rothman will be accompanied at all times by a pair of guardian angels.

At the beginning of each official synagogue meeting, members of the Board of Trustees will be asked to spit three times to ward off evil and to utter the phrase “God forbid,” under their breath. “Watch yourself,” a phrase popularized in the 20th century by Jewish mothers in an unofficial movement to keep their children safe, will be used to close these meetings.

Laurie Frolich, synagogue president, responded as a real Jew when asked by the Community Synagogue Bulletin whether these measures will protect the clergy. “Will they protect the clergy?” she said. “God only knows.”

This Purim page was prepared with love by David and Andi Hessekiel, with an assist from Sophie Hessekiel, contributing from Los Angeles.
CSR Welcomes Scholar-in-Residence
Noam Zion: Liberating Your Passover Seder
March 17 & 18
(see full schedule on page 13)

Noam Zion is the Director of Shalom Hartman Institute’s Resource Center for Jewish Continuity. He specializes in teaching Jewish Holidays, Bible and Art, and has edited several educational books for the Shalom Hartman Institute.

Join us to learn ways to make your Passover celebration more joyful and meaningful for your family.

SAVE THE DATE: April 21

CSR Presents: The Sel Hubert Humanitarian Speaker Series

Sel Hubert, beloved CSR past President and Holocaust survivor, was a frequent speaker/teacher on the Holocaust and human rights.

This year’s program will feature Besa: The Promise (a film on Albanians who aided German Jewish immigrants during the War). The post-film discussion will be facilitated by the artistic director of the film. More details to follow...
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).

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Rabbi ...........................................Leora 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

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Rachel Rubin

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Community Synagogue of Rye invites you to a very special Shabbat Service
Honoring Laurie Landes
On her Retirement and Three Decades of Inspiring, Strengthening and Educating our Community
April 22nd at 10:00 AM
Continue the celebration at a Festive Brunch
10:45 AM in the Social Hall
$45 per person (children under thirteen are free)
RSVP by March 27, 2017
The cost represents the value of the event and is not tax-deductible.
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www.comsynrye.org
Catching Happiness

Mi Shenichnas Adar Marbim b’Simcha—One Who Enters Adar Increases in Joy (Talmud Ta’anit 29)

The Talmud says: “Mi SheNichnas Adar, Marbim b’Simcha—one who enters Adar increases in happiness.”

Is it as simple as flipping the page on the calendar to the Jewish month of Adar to achieve happiness? Or is the path to happiness more akin to Benjamin Franklin’s assessment of the Constitution? Franklin said, “The Constitution only guarantees the American people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself.” I side with Dr. Franklin. Happiness is already there, we just have to tap into it. The question is how? How might we increase our “Happiness Quotient?”

Over the years, I’ve asked myself that very question. I’ve carefully collected ideas from various sources, and share them with you here:

- **Pay for experiences instead of stuff**: Making memories with those we love is much more valuable than acquiring “stuff” that we don’t need and that ends up in a closet somewhere anyway.

- **Turn up the tunes**: Several studies have found that listening to happy music can boost your mood.

- **Drink coffee, not soda**: According to a 2014 study, four or more cans of sweetened soda a day was found to raise a person’s risk of depression by 30 percent, while drinking four cups of coffee lowered the risk by 10 percent! (The soda probably also expands your waistline.)

- **Stop to smell the roses**: Research by Harvard University found that people who kept fresh cut flowers in their home for one week felt more energized and less anxious.

- **Smile and laugh**: A 2011 study found that thinking about something that makes you smile actually makes you feel happier, while laughter can boost mood and reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression.

- **Exercise regularly**: According to a British study published in 2014, people between the ages of 20 and 40 who started a three-times-a-week fitness routine cut the risk of depression by 16 percent.

- **Perform an act of kindness or volunteer**: Doing something kind for someone else can boost your mood, according to a University of California study.

- **Pray and meditate**: Meditation may lower stress and reduce symptoms of mild depression. Prayer is also linked to lowering stress. Come to services or check out meditation apps like Sattva, Calm, Headspace, or The Mindfulness App. I’ve been using Headspace for the past month and I love it!

- **Practice gratitude**: The Talmud says we should utter 100 blessings a day. The Central Conference of American Rabbis offers a Daily Blessings App (it’s only $1.99); it’s a simple and accessible way to have these blessings at your fingertips.

- **Go on vacation**: Even the anticipation of an upcoming trip can boost overall happiness for up to eight weeks before your actual trip, a 2010 Dutch study found.

This month at CSR, and in this issue of Community News, we are focusing on joy. What are some ways you can increase your joy and happiness? Come celebrate Purim with us. Come learn ways to make your Passover Seder more meaningful with Noam Zion. Turn back to the cover of this issue and enjoy the humor, created just for Purim by David and Andi Hessekiel, so you can have a laugh. Do something to increase your sense of joy. That way the notion of Mi SheNichnas Adar, Marbim b’Simcha—one who enters Adar increases in happiness can become manifest in your life.

Happy Purim! May you pursue happiness this month and every month!

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Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful song.

— Psalms, 100:2
A Good Month for a Mitzvah

March is a good month for a mitzvah. How do I know? I checked the calendar and it seems like there are many days ahead of us with few if any major holidays—winter breaks are behind us but still a whole month of cold and possibly dreary days to fill. With Passover on the horizon but not yet here, March is a good time to make our lives a blessing by helping others as we repair the world through tikkun olam.

One of the great pleasures of being a congregational president is witnessing the regular participation on Friday evenings of the b’nei mitzvah child and his or her family as they share with the wider community the work they have done on their personal mitzvah project. Listening to the inspirational story of a thirteen year old and seeing the world through their idealistic eyes provides a window into what could be if we all took to heart their message of community service and engagement.

Over the past few months I have heard a familiar theme—that of sharing time and money with those less fortunate than ourselves in our neighboring community of Port Chester and its environs. Our students seem drawn to helping in some very specific ways:

- In the Carver Center providing after school support as student aids helping with homework and recreational activities for children who attend after school programs.
- Participating in the Sharing Shelf, where young girls in particular, seem to enjoy collecting, sorting and styling gently used clothes for young children, teens and tweens who can’t regularly “go the mall” to buy the latest trends off the rack.
- Donating to the Food Pantry and Dinner at Noon to alleviate some of the food insecurity and real nutritional shortfalls right in our own backyard.

At our most recent Torah study, Rabbi Gropper made us aware of the acute reality for many American families, particularly those with single parent households and young children, of living with “food insecurity” defined as “the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.” Rabbi Gropper juxtaposed this information with the Torah portion that recounts the Israelites’ trek through the wilderness where the thought of food insecurity leads to a potential loss of faith, and the famous passage where God provides “manna from heaven” that sustains the Hebrew community as they wander through the desert. To recognize that this feeling of food insecurity existed since Biblical times is eye-opening. But to realize that this condition exists today for close to 42.2 million Americans or 13 percent of American households is a national disgrace. The fact that a community not more than 10 minutes from most of our front doors also has food deficits is something both shocking and repairable.

Following Rabbi Gropper’s lead, I checked into these statistics from 2015:

- 42.2 million Americans lived in food insecure households, including 29.1 million adults and 13.1 million children.
- 13 percent of households (15.8 million households) were food insecure.
- 5 percent of households (6.3 million households) experienced very low food security.
- Households with children reported food insecurity at a significantly higher rate than those without children, 17 percent compared to 11 percent.
- Households that had higher rates of food insecurity than the national average included households with children (17%), especially households with children headed by single women (30%) or single men (22%), Black non-Hispanic households (22%) and Hispanic households (19%).

Within our synagogue family we have an active and dedicated team of volunteers who provide nourishing and beautifully prepared meals as part of the Dinner at Noon initiative. The next gathering is March 18 at the Carver Center. Our Dinner at Noon team leader is Marlena Schaeffer and she indicated to me that at this time of year in particular the residents are in great need of fresh fruit and vegetables to supplement what is provided through the local food banks. Marlena has asked for bags of clementines, whole fruits, bunches of grapes and bananas, as well as freshly baked goods such as cupcakes and brownies. All of the food for this program is donated by individuals from four local churches and our synagogue. Please contact Marlena at marschaeffer@aol.com if you would like to help.

Likewise if you have gently used clothing, or would like to make a donation of time or money to any of the organizations or efforts noted above, please contact the synagogue office for more information.

By joining together to see what is needed right here in our own backyard we can make March a good month for a mitzvah that leaves each of us feeling spiritually enriched and nourished.

With warm regards and best wishes,

Laurie Frolich
Sweet, Joyful Purim Memories

I am fortunate that I have so many fond memories of my family celebrating together Jewish holidays and life cycle events. Over the years, a number of those celebrations took place in my family’s home and many took place at the synagogue in Poughkeepsie, NY where I grew up.

Now that my mother is no longer with us, those memories of celebrations take on a much stronger and deeper meaning. They are memories that I share with my siblings through photos and conversation as we look back fondly on the childhood we had with our parents who were totally engaged with the Jewish community.

Celebrating Purim was an event that we looked forward to with great excitement. As young children in elementary school, we would get dressed up in costume and go to the carnival at our synagogue where we played games, traded tickets for prizes and enjoyed a hamantashen, the traditional Purim cake shaped in a triangle. They weren’t like the ones we have now with the cookie dough. Instead, they were large flaky triangular-shaped pastries filled with either prune filling or poppy seed filling (my parents’ favorite—they called it by the Yiddish word, mohn).

As a parent, I wanted my daughter to have her own fond memories of Jewish celebrations and carried on many of the traditions that I cherished from my own childhood.

When I asked my daughter recently about her Purim memories, she quickly recalled some. What stood out for her among the games at the Purim carnival were the water balloons that you were able to burst with a dart. And, she invariably took home a newly acquired goldfish that rarely made it through the first 24 hours!

I am grateful for my own family memories and for those that I created with my daughter. My wish for you is to embrace the opportunities to create Jewish memories with your children. They, too, will look back as adults with fond memories of joyous Jewish celebrations they shared with their family. Mark your calendars for the Purim festivities at Community Synagogue of Rye on Sunday, March 12, 2017 from 11 am to 1 pm and plan to bring the whole family!

Green Team Update

This year the Green Team is focusing on plastics, specifically the ways in which huge amounts of plastic waste are polluting our land and seas. As promised, here are our monthly tips, taken from The Green Education Foundation, for ways of avoiding excessive uses of plastic.

- Stop using plastic straws, even in restaurants. If a straw is a must, purchase a reusable stainless steel or glass straw.
- Use a reusable produce bag. A single plastic bag can take 1,000 years to degrade. Cloth bags are easily obtainable. Wash your cloth bag often.
- Give up gum. Gum is made of synthetic rubber, aka plastic.
- For more suggestions or advice or to share your ideas, please come to our next meeting, Monday, March 6.

Building Committee Update

The behind-the-scene work continues on our upcoming synagogue renovation!

- Rogers Partners, the project architects, have completed the second phase of the design process—design development. The project team awaits pricing feedback on design drawings, and refinements of key elements continue.
- The site survey, which located existing utilities and the wetlands off the back of the building, is complete.
- February marked the beginning of the local filing process, which is done with the design team in coordination with our owner’s representative and land use attorney.
- Selection is underway for a construction manager—our goal is to have the right contractor by late March.
Hamantashen

Hamantashen, triangle-shaped cookies, are traditional for Purim. Why? One answer said that the triangle was the shape of Haman’s hat. In Hebrew, hamantashen are called “Haman’s ears/oznei Haman, so I guess there is some tradition that says he had 3-sided ears.

But that’s not the full story because I think hamantashen have more to do with Esther than Haman. When we think of the way Esther’s character changes within the story, we get some insight. In the very beginning of the megillah, she hides her identity. (We’re not even sure what her name is): “He [Mordecai] was foster father to Hadassah, that is, Esther, his Uncle’s daughter, for she had neither father nor mother.” (Esther 2:7)

Think also about Esther vying for the role of Queen—she is instructed not to reveal her “Jewish” roots. However, the story is one of success and joy because in the end, she does reveal herself. And that’s the secret of the hamantashen—the filling is “hiding” but still visible inside the cookie.

Savory Hamantashen Dough and Filling (Yield: 24-28 bite-size)

Butter Parmesan Crust
3 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup finely grated parmesan cheese
2 sticks unsalted butter, cubed and chilled
12-16 tablespoons ice water
2 teaspoons distilled vinegar

1. In a large bowl whisk together the flour, baking powder, salt, and cheese.
2. Add chilled butter cubes and rub it into the flour mixture until pea-sized crumbs result.
3. Add 4 tablespoons of water and 2 teaspoons of vinegar, and mix in to form a dough, adding more water, one tablespoon at a time, as needed.
4. Gather dough together and wrap in plastic and level into a disc, and chill for at least two hours or overnight.

The Savory Filling: Margarita Pizza
1 cup seasoned tomato sauce
8 oz. or 1 cup of fresh mozzarella, cubed into small cubes
2-6 basil leaves cut into thin strips

1. Remove dough from fridge and let it rest for 15-20 minutes. In the meantime preheat oven to 400 F.
2. Prepare a flat, uncluttered surface by lightly sprinkling flour.
3. Lay out utensils in arms reach: A rolling pin, a 3” round cookie cutter, or a drinking glass with a 3” diameter, a soup bowl (for the larger meal sized hamantashen), a dough scraper or metal spatula, and a couple of baking trays covered with parchment paper.
4. Remove the dough from the plastic wrap, place on the lightly floured surface and gently but firmly roll the dough out in brisk strokes, until it reaches 1/4”-1/8” consistency.
5. Press the rim of the glass, bowl, or cookie cutter in flour, and then cut out circles from the dough.
6. Spread sauce thickly in the center of the dough, add mozzarella cubes and basil strips.
7. Use thumbs to pick up the bottom of the circle, and then your index fingers to form the triangle.
8. Seal the 3 corners by pinching them closed.
9. Re-roll dough scraps until all dough is used.

Sweet S’mores Hamantashen (Yield: 30-40)

graham cracker dough adapted from One Girl Cookies Bakery

2 1/2 cups flour
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
2 cups sugar
1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
1/2 cup (8 tablespoons) cold unsalted butter, diced
1/2 cup water
3/4 cup marshmallow spread
1/2 cup chocolate chips

1. Combine the flour, baking soda, salt, and both sugars in the bowl of an electric mixer. Beat until well combined. Add the butter and beat until mixture resembles coarse meal. Slowly add the water just until a soft dough forms. Divide dough in half and roll each half out to 1/4 thickness between 2 sheets of parchment paper or plastic wrap. Stack all rolled dough on a baking sheet and refrigerate for 1 hour.
2. Pre-heat oven to 350° F. Line 2-3 baking sheets with parchment paper. Remove dough from fridge and place on your work surface. Using a cookie cutter or drinking glass (I used a 2 1/2” cookie cutter), cut out rounds and transfer to one of your prepared baking sheets. Gather scraps, roll, and cut again. Brush the edges of each circle with a little water. Place ONLY a teaspoon of marshmallow spread in the center, along with 3-5 chocolate chips.
3. Bring the sides of one circle inward, at diagonals to make an upside down “V” shape, and pinch the top closed. Bring the bottom edge up and pinch the two remaining corners closed. Repeat with remaining circles. Bake for 10 minutes, or until edges are golden brown. Remove from oven but leave cookies on the sheet. Repeat with remaining sheets.
4. Turn oven up to broil. Working with one sheet at a time, place cookies under broiler until marshmallow center is caramelized and cookies are a deep golden brown, about 30 seconds. Watch carefully so they don’t burn. Transfer cookies to wire racks to cool completely. Store in an airtight container at room temperature.
RABBI ROBERT A. ROTHMAN CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING

OUR B’NEI MITZVAH OF MARCH

My name is Zachary Taub and I became a bar mitzvah on top of Masada on February 20 with 27 members of my family around me. I am a seventh grade student at Blind Brook Middle School and the son of Jacey and Daniel Taub. I have an older sister Lily. My Torah portion was Mishpatim from the Book of Exodus. God presents Moses with more mishpatim (“laws”) and tells the Israelites they will be protected if they make a covenant and follow them. For my mitzvah project, I wanted to combine my love of basketball in a way that would help others. I volunteered with the Jewish Board programs at a residential treatment facility for people ages 12 to 21 with severe psychiatric challenges. I’ve been teaching them lessons I learned playing basketball. I worked with The Westchester Knicks Organization to enable my new pals to attend home games. I raised money so these kids can sit courtside and enjoy unlimited food and beverage in the VIP founder’s club and collected “gently used” basketball shoes for the kids to wear. To celebrate becoming a bar mitzvah, my friends and I are going to renovate the basketball courts at the facility.

My name is Sam Estroff-Liberti. On March 4, I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. I am the son of Joseph Liberti and Rachel Estroff. I have a younger sister, Isabella. I am a seventh grader at LMK Middle School. My Torah portion is T’rumah from the Book of Exodus. My Torah portion is about the Israelites exiting from Egypt. God tells them to build him a sanctuary for him to dwell in and He would protect them on their journey. He tells them to bring voluntary gifts if they felt moved by the occasion. I feel that this shows that gifts and efforts that come from the heart are the most meaningful. For my mitzvah project I volunteered at Miracle League of Westchester, helping children with disabilities get a chance to play baseball. This fulfilled the mitzvah of LoTiteyn Michshol—not placing a stumbling block. As a result, I realized how fortunate I am to be able to play baseball without any hardships in my way.

My name is Lauren Mehrara and I will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on March 4. I am a seventh grader at Rye Middle School. I am the daughter of Kimberly and Sas Mehrara and I have an older brother, Jonathan, and a younger sister, Jessica. My Torah portion is T’rumah from the Book of Exodus. This portion focuses on God instructing the Israelites to build the first temple. God tells them what materials they need and where in the temple he will meet them, which is in-between the cherubim above the ark. For my mitzvah project, my family and I are volunteering at the Ronald McDonald house to cook meals for families residing there.

My name is Ben Goldstein and I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on March 11. I am the son of Shari and Adam Goldstein. I am a seventh grader at Blind Brook Middle School. I have an older sister named Sydney who is in tenth grade and a younger brother named Ryan who is in third grade. I love to play sports like baseball, soccer, football and basketball. My Torah portion, T’zveah, is from the Book of Exodus. My portion focuses on building the Tabernacle. For my mitzvah project, I chose to donate to Let’s Play it Forward—an organization that collects gently used or new sports equipment for underprivileged children.

My name is Benjamin Berk. On March 18, I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. I am the son of Jodi and Andrew Berk and have a brother Alex. I am currently a seventh grade student at Blind Brook Middle School. The Torah portion for my bar mitzvah is Ki Tisa from the Book of Exodus. This portion talks about Moses receiving the Ten Commandments, and while losing hope when Moses doesn’t return right away, the Jews begin to build a golden calf as an object to worship. When Moses returns he is very upset to see what the Jews have done. This portion of the Torah taught me the importance of patience. For my mitzvah project, I volunteered with an organization that is very close to my family called FOPA (Friends of Peter Alderman). Peter, one of my father’s close friends, was killed on 9/11. His friends and family formed The Peter C. Alderman Foundation, which helps victims of mass terrorism and violence around the world. I plan to continue volunteering for this worthwhile cause for many years to come.

My name is Ilan Mahmoudov. On March 25 I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. I am the son of Alicia Hiller-Mahmoudov and Vadim Mahmoudov. I am an eighth grader attending Rye Middle School. My Torah portion is Vayak’heil from the Book of Exodus. The section I will be focusing on is Moses’ instructions to the Israelites to observe the Sabbath and to donate materials to build a portable sanctuary (Tabernacle).

For my mitzvah project, I earned money working as a soccer referee and then donated the money I earned to Nurses for Cambodia. Nurses for Cambodia sends nurses from Canada to Cambodia to work at an orphanage and school to help provide health teachings and treatments, and also tutoring in school. Not many children in Cambodia have the opportunity to continue school past sixth grade. After I become a bar mitzvah, I will continue to help those in need in an effort toward repairing our world.

My name is Danielle Orris and I am 12 years old and live in Rye Brook with my parents Jackie and Ryan and my brother Dylan. I am a seventh grade student at Blind Brook Middle School. I am being called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on March 25. My Torah portion is Vayak’heil from the Book of Exodus. This Torah portion is about the building of the Tabernacle during the exodus from Egypt. It helps us understand how everyone needed to work together (regardless of skill or means) to help design a beautiful sanctuary that would make them feel proud. For my mitzvah project I will be working with The Sharing Shelf to help collect gently used/new clothing and put together outfits to send to children that are in need. My hopes are that this will allow some children to wear these items and feel happy and proud of who they are.
Reanna Rosenfeld has been selected to attend the Student Inside Albany Conference!

Reanna will represent the Rye, Rye Brook, Port Chester chapter of the League of Women Voters.

The conference is an “intensive four-day training experience designed to immerse students in the process by which public policy is proposed, enacted and changed in New York State,” according to the League of Women Voters, sponsors of the event. Participants hear from legislators and observe Senate and Assembly sessions.

Rosenfeld will also have the opportunity to meet with and shadow state Sen. George Latimer and Assemblyman Steve Otis while she is in Albany.

“I’m really interested in politics and government,” said Rosenfeld. “Last year I went to DC with the Religious Action Center, and I loved it.”

## Celebrate Purim on Sunday, March 12 at the Jungle Safari Carnival

11 am Family Megillah Reading, CJL Music Video, and More...

11:30 am -1:30 pm COSY Purim Jungle Safari Carnival
Games for children of all ages

Tickets available at the Carnival or CJL

PRIZES FOR EVERYONE!!!
Win for playing games and for coming in costume!

Lunch & snacks for sale, complimentary mimosas for adults.
All proceeds go to Tzedakah (charity).

## CJL AND J-LIFE IMPORTANT DATES

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Finding “JOY” in the ECC

I spent some time in the ECC classrooms asking teachers and students what makes them happy. Take a look at the ones below and just try not to smile. Joy is contagious!

“Joy is playing with my dad.”  
- Madeline

“Joy is when I am playing with The Happy Hedgehogs and we are all engaged and all laughing.”  
- Amy Hanson

Joy is hanging upside down on the blue rug.

Joy is going to Candy Rocks.”  
- Lillian

“Joy is making my sister laugh.”  
- Jacob

“Joy is going snow-boarding.”  
- Colt

To honor our on-time award recipients, the CJL makes a donation to a Jewish cause. Rebecca chose Jewish Initiative for Animals. Hailey chose URJ Camp Eisner Scholarship Fund.

Study and learning are important Jewish values. Coming to class on-time demonstrates a commitment to Jewish learning. Rebecca & Hailey are wonderful role models for our school.

Great job Rebecca and Hailey!

ECC IMPORTANT DATES

- March 3  Sharing Shabbat hosted by the 2’s
- March 10  Purim Celebration
- March 12  Purim Carnival
- March 15 & 16  Photo Days
- March 18  Parents Night Out
- March 28  P/T Conference—Padgett
- March 29  P/T Conference—Rossi
- March 30  P/T Conferences – McCormack

Mazal Tov to our “ON-TIME” Winners!

Rebecca Rothstein  December
Hailey Mallah  January

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Study and learning are important Jewish values. Coming to class on-time demonstrates a commitment to Jewish learning. Rebecca & Hailey are wonderful role models for our school.

Great job Rebecca and Hailey!

CHANGE A CHILD’S LIFE ONE PENCIL AT A TIME

The Social Action Committee is accepting donations on behalf of the AFA Foundation to help students in Haiti and African nations.

What to Donate
Pencils  Pencils
Markers  Markers
Notebooks  Notebooks
Binders  Binders

Where to Donate

Please drop off in the synagogue lobby from March 1 – 31.
Thank you!
CANTOR COOPERMAN’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Theresa & Andrew Stevens in appreciation for the beautiful funeral service for Jay Stevens
Margot & Richard De Sevo in appreciation to Cantor Cooperman
Sue Ellen & Peter Goldman in memory of Irene and Melvin Goldman
Jill & George Wells in memory of Robert Wells

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER ENRICHMENT FUND
Leah & Russell Viault

KADIMA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
In memory of Kenneth Foreman, father of Michael Foreman
Joan & Ron Cohen
Carol & Gerald Cohen
Carol & Gerald Cohen in memory of Doris Lee, mother of Richard Schulman

RABBI GROPPER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Susan & Michael Siegel in appreciation to Rabbi Gropper
Linda & Lew Nieberg in memory of Marvin Baskin

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND
Barbara & Howard Chumsky in memory of Irma Bennett, grandmother of Barbara Chumsky

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT (SAJE) FUND
Alan R. Epstein
Caryl & Gil Weinstein in memory of Irving Weinstein, father of Gil Weinstein and Julia Rudner, mother of Caryl Weinstein
In memory of Joyce Donen Hirshhorn
Elaine Lerner
Iris & David Sampliner
Elaine Frey

SOCIAL ACTION FUND
Sarah & Ralph Newitter in memory of Jacob A. Levy

SYNAGOGUE FUND
Marianne & Richard Goldstein in memory of Martin Simon
Arlyn & Edward Gardner in honor of Talia Gardner’s bat mitzvah

YAHREIT FUND
Aileen & Marvin Carlton in memory of Alfred Landman, father of Aileen Carlton
Julie & Jeffrey Aronwald in memory of Carol B. Vinick
Nancy & Roger Matles in memory of Ann Matles

Condolescence

Kenneth Foreman, father of Michael Foreman
Stephen Dinces, husband of Gale Dinces
Joyce Donen Hirshhorn, sister of Gloria Sosin
Joan Berkman, mother of Kerri Winderman

Scholar-in-Residence Noam Zion:
Liberating Your Passover Seder
March 17 & 18

Friday at 9:30 am Noam Zion will lead an interactive session with parents and grandparents of young children called “Beginning New Passover Traditions in your Family that Grow with Time.” Participants will learn how to involve the whole family in an interactive, custom-made Seder.

Friday at 6:30 pm Shabbat dinner with our Scholar-in-Residence. Dinner reservations ($20 per adult/$10 per child with a maximum per family of $50) may be made payable to Community Synagogue of Rye or online www.eventbrite.com/e/liberating-your-passover-seder-with-scholar-in-residence-noam-zion-tickets-32360129017.

Friday at 7:45 pm Noam Zion will speak on “Dispelling Misconceptions of the Passover Seder” at the Shabbat Service.

Saturday at 8:45 am A discussion for parents and grandparents of CJL students with Noam Zion on the topic, “Beginning New Passover Traditions in your Family that Grow with Time.”

Saturday at 11:00 am Shabbat Brunch and Learn with our Scholar-in-Residence. Noam Zion will speak about a “Guide to the Perplexed Seder Leader.” All are welcome!

Saturday at 3:00 pm Motzei Shabbat teaching on “Art, Politics and Psychology of the 4 Daughters and 4 Sons” at a private home in Rye. Please RSVP for this event execassistant@comsynrye.org and you will be notified of the location.

Full details online at www.comsynrye.org/csr-worship-experiences.
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 sje@comsynrye.org with any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

Thursday March 2
SAJE welcomes Marikay Capasso, Coordinator of the Health for Life Program (HeLP), a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program at the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services. She will speak about how to manage pain, reaching levels of comfort through exercise, diet and stress management.

Monday, March 6
Longtime board member from Federated Conservationists of Westchester County, Carolyn Cunningham, will present a history of environmental issues in Westchester and the leading issues of today. Carolyn is a retired attorney who practiced environmental law since her graduation from Pace University Law School in 1988. For ten years of those years she worked for the Natural Resources Defense Council, a national environmental group headquartered in NYC.

Thursday March 9
Dine Around-Fig & Olive in Scarsdale-12:00 pm
Please sign up through Iris Sampliner at ikstravel@aol.com

Monday March 13
Nationally board certified acupuncturist Tracy Kalson will speak to SAJE about various different acupuncture styles and their particular benefits. Tracy received her Master of Science degree in Acupuncture from the Tri-State College of Acupuncture (TSCA) in New York City. Her techniques include Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM): The root of all acupuncture styles, Acupuncture Physical Medicine (APM), Cupping, Gua Sha and Auriculotherapy or “ear acupuncture.”

Thursday, March 16
Join Susan Fox, President and Chief Executive Officer of White Plains Hospital. Susan began her career as a pediatric intensive care nurse and went on to distinguish herself in many leadership positions after earning an MBA in Healthcare from Baruch College. Among the other initiatives Fox led was the creation of White Plains Hospital Physician Associates, which includes more than four dozen physicians who cover many specialties.

Monday March 20
Please join us as SAJE welcomes this year’s Westchester county Israeli Shaliach, Oshra Rosenberg. She will be speaking about her experiences growing up in Israel.
Volunteers needed to fill Purim Bags
Monday, March 6
Starting at 9:30 am

Over 300 bags have been ordered to help our fellow congregants, staff and teachers celebrate Purim.

We also need volunteers to deliver the bags to recipients during the week from Monday afternoon through Friday.

Please notify Janet Meyers at 967-0447 or Janet@SHMeyers.com if you can help.

This fundraiser has been a huge success and will help support WRJ/Sisterhood projects such as Jewish camp scholarships, gifts for the b’nei mitzvah students and confirmands, flowers for the High Holy Days, and Social Action opportunities.

Players of all levels welcome, including beginners. The cost to attend is $5 for members/non-members, and $10 if you want a lesson, both of which support Sisterhood initiatives. RSVP with your level of play to Janet Meyers: Janet@SHMeyers.com

Save these dates: Thursdays: March 30, April 27, May 18, June 29, 2017. Canasta players are welcome!

On Stage Saturday Night
Please join us on Saturday evening, March 11, when award winning composer of I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change, pianist, and entertainer Jimmy Roberts will be at CSR sharing his wonderful musical talents. Tickets are $36 each, which includes cocktails and small plates at 7 pm, performance at 8:30 pm and sweets and hamantashen at 9:30 pm. Make checks payable to Community Synagogue of Rye with “On Stage” in the memo line or visit www.comsynrye.org/community to pay online.

Many of our families have had the pleasure of knowing Laurie Landes, dedicated principal of CJL, who is retiring at the end of this school year. Please join us for a special service honoring her on Saturday, April 22 at 10:00 in the morning.

We welcome your participation and suggestions for other activities. Please join us at our next Empty Nesters meeting at CSR on Wednesday, March 15 at 8 pm. You can reach us at csrempynesters@gmail.com.

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On March 18, May 6 and June 24, volunteers from Community Synagogue of Rye will gather at the Carver Center to prepare and serve delicious, multi-course meals to Port Chester residents. Many of our guests come regularly and it’s a pleasure to greet them in the dining room. Our guests range from mothers with children to the elderly.

All of the food we serve is donated. We need fruits and baked goods for each gathering. Bags of clementines, bundles of grapes and bananas, as well as cupcakes and brownies would be appreciated. To donate, contact Marlena Schaeffer, CSR Dinner at Noon leader, at marschaeffer@aol.com. This program is organized by the Helping Hands Organization. Four local churches and our synagogue alternate serving delicious meals on Saturdays throughout the school year.

To grandparents Michele and Neil Fredman and parents Ariele Fredman Stewart and Perry Stewart on the birth of Millie Nora Stewart.

To Margot and Richard DeSevo on their move to Wake Forest, NC.

To Hanna and Maurice Poplausky on their son Elan’s bar mitzvah in Israel in December.

To Jacey and Daniel Taub on their son Zack’s bar mitzvah in Israel in February.

www.comsynrye.org
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

Women and young ladies of the congregation are cordially invited to

THE WOMEN’S SEDER
SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017
from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
at COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE of RYE

An inter-generational celebration for women of all ages
A Seder told in our own voices and valuing women's insights
Led by Rabbi Leora Frankel & Cantor Melanie Cooperman
& hosted by WRJ/Sisterhood

Please return reservations and payment by Monday March 27, 2017

For tickets online, go to
www.comsynrye.org/csr-worship-experiences
For more info email lfrankel@comsynrye.org

Address Service Requested