Honoring our Educators

I have learned much from my teachers; even more from my colleagues but I have learned most from my students. (Pirke Avot)

6:45 pm Coffee and Dessert
7:00 pm Join the CSR Building Committee and our architects, Rogers Partners, as they walk through the vision, schedule and impact of the upcoming synagogue renovations.
8:00 pm Annual Meeting
- President’s Report
- Rabbi’s Report
- Nominating Committee Report
- Election of Officers and Trustees
- Consideration of the proposed 2017-2018 annual budget
- CHAI Awards
- Presentation of the Carner Trophy

Thank you to the MRJ/Men’s Club for sponsoring dessert.
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).

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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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COSY President
Rachel Rubin

COMMUNITY NEWS STAFF
Co-Editors .........................................................Jackie Christal
...............................................................................Joanne Steinhardt
...............................................................................Ruth Harmon
Layout and Design ................................................Abby Pisaniello

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

This month’s Community News theme is “Israel” in honor of Yom Haatz’maut (Israel’s Independence Day) May 2, 2017
Please enjoy.

Shavuot

Third Annual Joint Reform Tikkun Leil Shavuot 5777
A Night of Jewish Learning and Community Celebration

Tuesday, May 30 at 7:45 pm
Scarsdale Synagogue-Temples Tremont and Emanu-El
2 Ogden Road, Scarsdale, NY

Join clergy and congregants from four Reform Jewish congregations: Scarsdale Synagogue, Westchester Reform Temple, Congregation Kol Ami, and Community Synagogue of Rye in a night of learning and celebration for the night of Shavuot, our Spring Festival of revelation.

Rabbis and Cantors will teach breakout sessions on the topic of Reform Jewish Responses to Ancient Jewish Questions.

We will enjoy some traditional Shavuot desserts, too!
The program is free and open to the community.

Shavuot Festival Service and Yizkor
Wednesday, May 31
10:00 am at CSR

A festive luncheon, sponsored by the Ritual Committee, will follow the Shavuot and Yizkor Service.

Shavuot is a Hebrew word meaning “weeks” and refers to the Jewish festival marking the receiving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.

It falls exactly seven weeks after Passover, which commemorates the Exodus from Egypt.
May 2017 Calendar

Monday, May 1
11:30 am  SAJE
6:15 pm  CJL 7th Grade/CSR Teens Grade 8-10
6:30 pm  CJL 7th Grade Moving Up Rehearsal
8:00 pm  Ritual Committee Meeting
          Green Team Meeting

Wednesday, May 3
10:00 am  Jewish Education Project Meeting
4:00 pm  CJL Grades K-6
          K-2 Open House
7:30 pm  Social Action Event: WE PERSIST

Thursday, May 4
11:30 am  SAJE

Friday, May 5
7:00 am  First Friday Torah Study
9:10 am  ECC Shabbat
5:15 pm  Sharing Shabbat
6:30 pm  Family Shabbat Services

Saturday, May 6
8:45 am  Torah Study Service
          CJL Grades 3-6
          6th Grade Retreat Make-Up Session
5:00 pm  Lucy Adelson, bat mitzvah

Monday, May 8
11:30 am  SAJE
6:15 pm  CJL 7th Grade/CSR Teens Grade 8-10
6:30 pm  CJL 7th Grade Moving Up Rehearsal
8:15 pm  Board of Trustees

Wednesday, May 10
4:00 pm  CJL Grades K-6
5:30 pm  Torah in a NY Minute
7:30 pm  Tzedek Council

Thursday, May 11
10:00 am  Matthew Solow, bar mitzvah
11:30 am  SAJE

Friday, May 12
9:10 am  ECC Shabbat
6:45 pm  7th Grade Moving Up/12th Grade Dinner
7:45 pm  Shabbat Services, 7th Grade Moving Up and
          12th Grade Graduation

Saturday, May 13
8:45 am  Torah Study Service
          CJL Grades 3-6/Closing Service/Madrichim Graduation
10:45 am  CJL Teacher Appreciation Brunch
7:00 pm  ECC Enchanted Evening Gala

Monday, May 15
11:30 am  SAJE
6:00 pm  ECC Art Show
6:30 pm  10th Grade Confirmation Rehearsal and Dinner

Wednesday, May 17
6:00 pm  ECC Art Show
7:30 pm  Fake News: Panel Discussion of the Media

Thursday, May 18
11:30 am  SAJE
7:00 pm  Mah Jongg
6:45 pm  Annual Congregational Meeting
          Presentation by architects & Building Committee

Friday, May 19
9:10 am  ECC Shabbat
10:30 am  ECC Council Meeting
6:30 pm  Band Rehearsal
7:45 pm  Shabbat Services with T’fillah Band

Saturday, May 20
8:45 am  Torah Study Service
11:15 am  Ryan Cantu, bar mitzvah
5:00 pm  Julia Zislis, bat mitzvah

Monday, May 22
11:30 am  SAJE
6:30 pm  10th Grade Confirmation Rehearsal and Dinner
8:00 pm  Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 24
6:00 pm  SAJE

Thursday, May 25

Friday, May 26

Saturday, May 27
8:45 am  Torah Study Service
11:15 am  Gracie Ruggiero, bat mitzvah

Monday, May 29 (ECC and Office Closed)

Tuesday, May 30
7:45 pm  Tikun Leil Shavuot at Scarsdale Synagogue
          Temples Tremont and Emanu-El

Wednesday, May 31 (ECC and Office Closed)
10:00 am  Shavuot Yizkor & Luncheon
8:00 pm  Band Rehearsal

WE PERSIST brings you
WESTCHESTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT &
HOT TOPICS FACING OUR COMMUNITY

**
Wed, May 3 at 7:30-9:30 pm
Community Synagogue of Rye

Learn about the Ins & Outs of County Government
& Why Voting in the Midterm Elections is CRITICAL!
Hot Topics affecting our community:
Airport, Guns, Immigration & More

**
Featuring:
Former County Legislator Martin Rogowsky
Current Legislator Catherine Borgia
Gun Control Activist Charles Bell
Airport Activist Jonathan Wang
Plus Legislator Catherine Parker & Others

www.comsynrye.org
I have a dream. It may not be as lofty at Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream, but it is mine. My dream is that every young person in this congregation travels to Israel, ideally for a whole summer, a semester, or year of college. If they can’t do that, then I dream that they will at least participate in The March of the Living, Birthright Israel or a new start-up called, “Honeymoon Israel” that takes young couples to Israel for 10 days within their first few years of marriage.

Why do I dream of this? Because aside from a day school education or a Jewish summer camp experience, intensive intentional Israel travel experiences have the greatest impact on one’s future Jewish identity. Studies prove this. But my own anecdotal evidence is proof enough. I hear it from young congregants after a Birthright Israel experience or from people about to marry who tell me how traveling to Israel created or strengthened their Jewish identity.

As my eldest son Elijah prepares to graduate from high school along with a large cadre of friends who began here with him in kindergarten, I wonder what will they face in college? Besides the question of whether or not they will participate in campus Jewish life, what challenges to their Jewish identity will they encounter?

There are threats from both the political right and the left. The threats from the left come as anti-Semitism disguised as anti-Zionism. Under the guise of advocating for human rights, the BDS movement calls on institutions of higher learning to Boycott, Divest and Sanction Israel. BDS is really a veiled attempt to delegitimize the State of Israel and her right to exist. And while we all want Israel to live up to the ideals enshrined both in Torah and in her Declaration of Independence, denying Israel’s right to exist essentially denies the Jewish people a right to their own homeland. Students who’ve walked the land in Israel and learned about its history will have the experience and language to rebut the claims made against it, especially those that are spurious.

Unfortunately, with the rise of the alt-Right in America, the BDS movement has all but disappeared from the headlines (although it remains as strong as ever). The threats from the alt-Right are real. Experts say that our current political climate has emboldened anti-Semites in America. Bomb threats to Jewish institutions, the vandalism of Jewish cemeteries and the Swastikas painted on Jewish buildings (including Jewish fraternity houses) speak to a new era in American history. Again, this is why our college students need experiences that bolster their sense of what it means to be Jewish and why being Jewish matters. In fact, I have long made the following offer to any alum of CSR: take a Jewish studies class in college and I will pay for your books for that course (and thank you to those who donate to the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund so that I may do this important rabbinic work on your behalf). Such learning will allow our Jewish students to stand up and speak out for what it means to be Jewish and why being Jewish matters.

This month we celebrate Israel’s 69th birthday. Those 69 years, have been interesting times. Israel seems to be the epicenter for so much turmoil, so much disagreement; and yet she is our country, our homeland. I want our young people to feel at home in Israel; to feel, as the Talmud teaches, that they have their four cubits in that land. I want them to go to Israel, to help build her and be built up by her, as the old Zionist slogan declared. And I want them to love Israel as I do; for soon, it will be up to them to ensure not only her survival, but her ongoing relevance in the lives of Jews of their generation and generations to come.

Wishing Israel a Mazal Tov on reaching 69 years and Mazal Tov to all our graduates!

Rabbi Daniel Gropper
MAY IT BE SO

May is a wonderful month—a time of winding down and starting up. Schools, both secular and religious, begin their march toward the end of term. Students and teachers become anxious to finish a semester’s worth of work and see summer vacation looming on the horizon. Parents and children yearn for a break in the routine and dream of lazy days with less pressure and fixed schedules. Welcome to the unofficial start of summer!

But before we get there, we have much synagogue business to report and finalize, as well as people to honor and occasions to celebrate.

First we want to thank two of our educational leaders who are leaving Community Synagogue of Rye at the end of the school year: Laurie Landes, the Educational Director of the C JL who, for close to three decades, has inspired us, educated our students, weathered many storms, and given to the children of our community so much to be thankful for. We wish her continued strength and happiness as she begins a well-deserved retirement. We also extend thanks and appreciation to Rick Abrams, our tireless Family Life Director, whose energy, musical talent, engaging leadership and general menschlichkeit will be missed by all who have worked with him directly or have been touched by his caring ways. Both of these educational role models have left a legacy of love and inspiration in our community for which we are most grateful.

Now for the starting up portion of this message. Community Synagogue will soon be embarking on the long-awaited renovation of our sanctuary and adjacent meeting spaces. We are targeted to begin the process of ground breaking shortly after the close of all school activities at the end of June. Plans are underway for relocating the office functions on the first and second floor to onsite trailers, which will house our clergy and staff during the time of the renovation.

We have also secured alternative worship space for our b’nei mitzvah families during the renovation period and all children and their families (as well as friends and guests) will be accommodated on their assigned dates at either Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester or Congregation Kneses Tifereth Israel (KTI). Additionally, we have formally made arrangements for our regular worship services—both the Friday evening Shabbat service and Saturday morning Torah study—to take place at Rye Presbyterian Church in a lovely recently updated chapel. This space, which has been visited and approved of by both our clergy and lay leadership team, offers a clean, bright and entirely appropriate venue to continue our congregational worship without interruption while our own sanctuary is under reconstruction.

We will be sending all of our congregants more detailed information regarding the timetable and use of this space in early June, well ahead of our move, but I did want to begin the process of letting you now how our plans have taken shape. The leadership and clergy at Rye Presbyterian Church have been welcoming, accommodating, and eager to extend their hospitality to our membership during this time of temporary relocation. We look forward to making this a meaningful and seamless transition for all.

We are also entering the final push for the fundraising portion of the Kadima Campaign—now called Kadima Together. Our leadership team for the Kadima Campaign—Susan Rudolph, Karen Cherney-Zaltz, and Jerry Cohen—has been in close contact with members of the Board of Trustees, our clergy, and other campaign volunteers to identify and implement ways to engage every member of our congregation in this all important effort. Everyone will be given the opportunity and honor of contributing to this effort in whatever way they feel is meaningful for them. We are hoping to have full-participation by our membership so that each of us can share in the joy and commitment of having moved this project forward for the benefit of ourselves and future generations of Community Synagogue.

We will also begin sending out regular updates on the renovation schedule, on our website and in this newsletter, as it unfolds. A wonderful opportunity to see the next phase of exterior design sketches and to hear more about the timetable for the renovation will be at our Annual Meeting. Scheduled for May 18, the Annual Meeting provides the opportunity to reach the widest possible audience. Please mark your calendars accordingly and plan to join us for this all important gathering.

While we know that change can be challenging and downright scary for some, it also affords us the opportunity to liberate our thinking, try out some new experiences, exercise our intellectual and spiritual muscles and shake off preconceived ideas that sometimes hold us back. So while we move into this next phase of the life cycle of Community Synagogue of Rye, let’s do so with an open mind, a generous heart and a willing spirit to rise above any small inconveniences that come our way. We will still be Community Synagogue of Rye, just different for a short while, and hopefully return to our own space renewed, refreshed, and with a greater appreciation of all that we have and hold dear. May it be so.

Laurie Frolich

Laurie Frolich, President • president@comsynrye.org
MY CONNECTIONS TO ISRAEL

As Israel prepares to celebration its 69th Independence Day, we at Community Synagogue of Rye thought we would take this time to share personal thoughts about our own Israel experiences.

I came from a home with unusually strong ties to Israel. My parents, as teenagers in Boston, were very active in the Labor Zionist movement, which was advocating for the creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. My father, a WWII navy veteran, volunteered to serve in the emerging Jewish navy in Palestine in 1947 and, with a British visa in hand, travelled by ship to Haifa with a group of other passionate (and adventurous) young Jews. He stayed there for over a year, enough time to be present for the creation of the State of Israel, and returned to the US with a cadre of lifelong friends, veterans whom he met in the “Holy Land.”

My mother’s first trip to Israel was in 1968, as Israel celebrated its 20th Independence Day. It was my father’s first trip back in 20 years. Over the years, they raised three children, served as leaders in the local Jewish community and quietly dreamed about someday moving to Israel, which they did.

My first trip to Israel took place when I chose to spend by junior year of college at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. I fell in love with the country and spent much more time enjoying the beauty and history of the country than I did on my school work! It’s a small country and I traveled the length and breadth. One highlight was a weeklong trip to the Sinai Desert, which included an early morning climb to the top of (what they say is) Mt. Sinai.

During the ensuing years, I spent about 3 years living in Israel and my sister and parents moved there permanently. A number of times I participated in organized tours for Jewish professionals and, when the tour concluded, spent some time visiting with my family. The result was that I have been able to stay connected to good friends who live there and have been privileged to visit so many different sites around the country—both the “do not miss” and many that are “off the beaten path.”

I have experienced life in Israel through the eyes of the people who live there. Regardless of the ever-present security challenges, Israeli families come together for Shabbat and holidays and are always celebrating weddings and the birth of babies. Even among Israeli Jews who are not-religious (a significant number, including my family), the Jewish calendar sets the rhythm of daily life.

There were several times that we went to Israel as family. I must say that it is a GREAT place to go for a family vacation! There are a number of congregants who would likely be happy to share their family experiences and would certainly tell you the same thing!

CSR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

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<th>2015</th>
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My retirement party was a truly amazing and perfect close to my almost 30 wonderful years at Community Synagogue of Rye. I was overwhelmed with the outpouring of well-wishers and truly touched by your personal and written sentiments. Thank you so much to the committee, Jackie Kabot, Sue Zeitlin, Rabbi Frankel, Donna DeLynn, Pam Kerlan, Abby Pisaniello and Shanna Sudderth, who brought such creativity into every aspect of the celebration. With deep appreciation, Laurie Landes  

(Photo cred: Rhoda Levine)
Mazal Tov to Our 7th, 10th and 12th Grade Students

On Friday evening, May 12 at 7:45 pm, we will honor our high school graduates and 7th grade students who are moving up to the CSR Teens program. Twelfth grade students will receive graduation gifts and a blessing on the bimah as part of this special service. Seventh grade students will lead the service and will be awarded certificates. Everyone in our synagogue community is invited to attend and enjoy a celebratory Oneg dessert afterwards.

We congratulate the following 12th grade students on their graduation from high school:

Jamie Broitman          Ben Kadmon
Sydnie Cammisa          Spencer Kaplan
Eliza Davis             Rebecca Kimmel
Ilana Davis             Shelby Kraut
Nicole Davis            Jennifer Leighton
Rachel Davis            David Levy
Emma DePaola            Sarah Meyers
Ethan Fogarty           Heather Neiman
Matthew Greenwald       Benjamin Rubin
Elijah Gropper          Zachary Sandler
Allison Hufford         Julia Schreib
Andrew Hufford          Gabriella Swartz
Garrett Hughes

The following 7th grade students have successfully completed the course of studies at the Center for Jewish Learning and are moving up to the CSR Teens Program.

Lucy Adelson            Jack Kohn          Baron Rozowsky
Henry Aronwald          Charlotte Levine   Gracie Ruggiero
Benjamin Berk           Carly Mallah       Zachary Schutzer
Hannah Bertisch         Shira Mallah       Sophia Schwartzman
Sydney Brookman         Alexandra Marshall  Rebecca Silverstein
Ryan Cantu              Caroline Mayer      Blake Sloves
Morgan Delizia          Lauren Mehrara     Matthew Solow
Reece Dorfman           Maya Miller        Joshua Steiner
Maya Egan               Danielle Orris     Zachary Taub
Samuel Estroff-Liberti  Siena Piacente     Abigail Wang
Andrew Fogarty          Jack Reisner       AJ Wilk
Benjamin Goldstein      Zachary Rejtig     Olivia Zahl
Bailey Goodman          Zoe Richman        Julia Zislis
Lior Gurion             Nick Rosenstadt

On Friday, June 2 at 7:45 pm during our Confirmation Service, we will recognize our 10th grade students who, through a year of committed study, have affirmed the role of Judaism in their lives:

Rachael Adelson, Adam Chen, Amber Hufford
Caroline McCormack, Sasha Spitz, Sam Tuch, Natalie Weiner
Our B’Nei Mitzvah of May

Lucy Adelson
My name is Lucy Adelson and I will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on May 6. I am the daughter of Alyssa and Marc Adelson and I have one sister Rachael, who is in tenth grade. I am a seventh grader at Rye Middle School. I enjoy lacrosse, skiing and field hockey. My Torah portion is Emor from the Book of Leviticus, the story of the Israelites’ punishments for breaking the rules of Torah, and how these rules were significant to keeping the community a safe and holy place. For my mitzvah project, I chose to do a donation drive and bake dog treats for sale to benefit NY Pet Rescue, where dogs live when they are rescued and before they find a home. I loved helping Pet Rescue because last year I adopted my dog from there. I couldn’t adopt all of the animals, but I wanted to keep helping the ones who haven’t found homes yet.

Matthew Solow
My name is Matthew Solow and I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on May 11. I am a seventh grader at Blind Brook Middle School. My parents are Gail and Larry Solow. I have two sisters, Emily who is in the fourth grade and Allie who is in second grade. My Torah portion is Parashat Emor from the Book of Leviticus. It is the story of God giving instructions to Moses to relay to the Israelites. It is the first time that all the holidays are laid out in calendar form for the people to follow. For my mitzvah project I decided to volunteer my time at Experience Camps for Grieving Children, a one-week free camp for boys and girls who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling or primary

Ryan Cantu
My name is Ryan Cantu and I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on May 20. I am a seventh grader at Rye Neck Middle School. My parents are Julie and Roy and I have an older brother Justin, along with a dog named Cubby. My Torah portion is B’chukotai, the last Book of Leviticus. It discusses the many rules God made for his people to follow, and the rewards and consequences for following and disobeying his rules. It also makes you think about why some good people have terrible things happen to them. For my mitzvah project, I volunteered at the Carver Center in Port Chester. I helped sort, categorize and shelve food in the food pantry. I also worked at their monthly Senior Breakfast where I aided many of the seniors by setting up the tables, serving them breakfast, and I was the caller at the Bingo games. This experience showed me making mitzvahs are very heartwarming when you know you have helped people in the community who are in need.

Julia Zislis
My name is Julia Zislis and I will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on May 20. I am the daughter of my lovely parents Janice and Jan Zislis, and have two adorable younger brothers, Ben and Gavin. I am currently a seventh grader at Blind Brook Middle School. I enjoy dancing, and yeah, dancing. My Torah portion is Bamidbar from the Book of Numbers. It is the story of Moses and others who are walking in a desert to Sinai (currently Israel), and take a census. For my mitzvah project, I decided to go to Congregation Kol Ami every other Sunday and help children with their studies. This is meaningful to me because the children I work with have learning disabilities and that means more time working with these kids. I love working with them and it is fun getting to know them. On the corresponding week when I don’t go to the temple, I go to my family friends’ house and work with their daughter who has some trouble getting her words out. I help her with her homework, read with her, help her on the treadmill, and play with her! This was really fun knowing that it is my family friend and I would be helping her.

Gracie Ruggiero
My name is Gracie Rose Ruggiero and I am the daughter of Jennifer Goldschmid and Gino Ruggiero. I am a seventh grader at Western Middle School in Greenwich, Ct. My grandparents are Leslie and Michael Goldschmid. I will be called to the Torah on May 27 to chant the first portion of the Book of Numbers, B’Midbar. In this portion, the Jewish people are asked to conduct a census of able-bodied men so that they will know how many can defend them if necessary. For my mitzvah project I was able to combine my love for dance with my experiences in a school activity called Best Buddies. In this activity, some of us have volunteered to “buddy” with a developmentally disabled student. The New York Performing Arts Center in Harrison offers a dance class on Saturday mornings for girls with Down Syndrome. I assist the instructor so that they can gain more self-confidence, better body awareness, and a sense of accomplishment. This has been an awesome opportunity and I would recommend it to anyone with experience with disabled students who also love to dance.

Be sure to LIKE and follow our page to see our b’nei mitzvah every Friday.
"As long as the Jewish spirit is yearning deep in the heart…” is the opening line of Hatikva, the Israeli National Anthem. Inspirational words that in many ways describe the spirit of Marnie Mallah, the CJL Committee chair for the past two years. Under Marnie’s leadership, we coordinated a number of community conversations that explored our “hopes and dreams” for our children through a Jewish lens. The information we uncovered is guiding potential new pathways to learning that emphasize Jewish values and confidence building. Marnie led the charge to keep our children safe by spearheading a new food allergy policy and oversaw the development of an updated evacuation plan. She supported two new initiatives; our Project Based Learning initiative to create learning that is interactive and student driven as well as Hebrew Pods, small group Hebrew learning. Marnie worked hard to ensure that our school-wide events ran well and she could often be found greeting parents and children with a gracious smile and her own brand of Midwestern hospitality. She served as a visionary who had the courage to be a change maker. This year she launched JET, Jewish Engagement Team, a new model of educational leadership, a think tank for what Jewish learning could be as we move to the future. It has been my pleasure to have worked with Marnie. In addition to all she has done as a Jewish educational leader, she always brought a special feeling of warmth and welcome to our meetings, Jewish spirit deep in her heart and a vision of hope for our children.

**Mazal Tov to our “ON-TIME” Winners!**

February, 2017  
Rebekah Golub

March, 2017  
Emma Silberstein

To honor our on-time award recipients, the CJL makes a donation to a Jewish cause.  
Rebekah chose Mazon, A Jewish Response to Hunger.  
Emma chose NOAH, The Israeli Federation of Animal Protection Societies.

Study and learning are important Jewish values. Coming to class on-time demonstrates a commitment to Jewish learning. Rebekah and Emma are wonderful role models for our school.  
*Great job Rebekah and Emma!*

**CJL AND J-LIFE IMPORTANT DATES**

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<td>May 1</td>
<td>7th Grade Moving Up rehearsal</td>
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<td>May 3</td>
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<td>May 8</td>
<td>Last Monday night class, Grades 7-10</td>
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<td>7th Grade Moving Up rehearsal</td>
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<td>May 10</td>
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<td>12th Grade Graduation Dinner &amp; Service</td>
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**CJL Fall 2017 Registration**

Parents, watch your mail for Fall 2017 CJL Registration forms. If you need an extra form or would like to refer a family, please contact Abby in the CJL office at 914-967-7598 or rs@comsynrye.org.

**This is our Gift to You!**

**FREE JEWISH BOOKS OR MUSIC FOR CHILDREN UP TO 8-YEARS-OLD**

Register your family at: [www pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org)

Please make a donation to support this wonderful organization [http://tinyurl.com/zgqkkbm](http://tinyurl.com/zgqkkbm)

**ECC IMPORTANT DATES**

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<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Conferences - Newman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Sharing Shabbat hosted by the 3s at 5:15 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>ECC Enchanted Evening Gala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>End of Year Show – Happy Hedgehogs, 6-7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>End of Year Show – Fun Loving Fish, 6-7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Fours’ Beach Trip (Rain Date 5/25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>End of Year Show – 4s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>ECC Closed for Memorial Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>ECC Closed for Shavuot/Give back day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
FAKE NEWS,

The First Amendment,
And Democracy

A Panel Discussion on the Role of the Media in
Today’s Political Environment

Moderated by Lee Woodruff

Wednesday, May 17, 2017
7:30-9:00 PM
Community Synagogue of Rye 200 Forest Ave., Rye, NY

MODERATOR
LEE WOODRUFF, author, writer and contributing reporter for CBS This Morning. Panel moderator

HEATHER CABOT, author, adjunct professor at Columbia Journalism School and former ABC News correspondent/anchor

TAEGAN GODDARD, founder of the must read political website, Political Wire

CHRIS VLASTO, Emmy-winning executive producer of Good Morning America

DIANA WILLIAMS, reporter and anchor for WABC-TV’s Eyewitness News

PANELISTS:

FREE ADMISSION.
Pre-registration required; space is limited. To register, visit: https://fakenewsmediapanel.eventbrite.com

This event is made possible by WE PERSIST.
For more information, email: wepersist123@gmail.com

www.comsynrye.org
DONATE SPRING and SUMMER CLOTHING TO THE SHARING SHELF

Look for our dedicated bins in the lobby!

The Sharing Shelf seeks donations of spring and summer clothing for infants, children and teens.

Please bag items and place them in the marked bins. All sizes, from newborn through XXL accepted, but sizes 3T-8 as well as casual clothing for teen boys, are critically needed. Donations of new socks & new underwear are greatly appreciated but we do not accept used ones. The Sharing Shelf does not collect clothing formerly worn by adults.

If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Nagel at carrienagel1203@gmail.com.
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!

Monday, May 1
SAJE @ Westchester Jewish Center, Mamaroneck
Kaslowe Gallery Winter Exhibition
175 Rockland Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY from 12 pm-2 pm
Docent tour including lunch: $5
“The World in Our Hands,” displays highlights from the largest and most diverse Torah pointer collection in the U.S. The Virginia-based collector Clay Barr’s vast collection of yads (Torah pointers), includes the rarest and most creative selections, antiques and commissioned work from contemporary artists with pointers made of stone, wood, paper, ceramic, metal, Lucite, glass, silver, ivory, brass, gems, leather and more. They are small and large, portable and mounted, traditional and wildly original. Such artists as Tobi Kahn, Wendell Castle, Darlys Ewolt and Albert Paley are represented, originating from Hungary, Israel, Norway, Vermont, Germany, North Africa and New Jersey, for starters.

Thursday, May 4
Dine Around-12:00 pm at Char Restaurant (see below)

Monday May 8
Come visit Riga, Latvia and Prague with Herb Blecker during his travelogue for SAJE. Herb returned recently from a trip with The American Jewish Committee to Warsaw to open and dedicate AJC’s new office there, the fifth in Europe.

Thursday May 11
Are American Jews losing their Jewish identity?
Join author Richard Rubin for our book discussion of Jewish in America: Living George Washington’s Promise. Since George Washington promised Jewish Americans the full privileges and protections of U.S. citizenship, Jews have flourished in America as nowhere else in the world. But has that come at the expense of their Jewish identity? Richard Rubin argues that while most American Jews have been “Americanized,” they continue to be shaped by Jewish history, culture, and religion in ways that affect everything from their social attitudes to their child-rearing methods to their voting patterns. This “fusion” of American values with Jewish ones has created a “hybrid” Jewish identity that American Jews must cultivate and pass on to future generations.

Monday, May 15
We are privileged to welcome Laura Rossi, Executive Director of the Westchester Community Foundation to SAJE. A lifelong resident of Westchester, she joined the Foundation in 2007 as a program officer, providing her the opportunity to get to know the county’s nonprofits, its residents and natural resources, and its remarkable diversity. As a program officer, she developed initiatives and grant programs at the Foundation, focusing on environmental sustainability and equitable smart growth, better access to healthy food and better health through partnerships with the faith community. Previously, Laura practiced criminal, employment, and civil rights law in New York. She has worked for local and statewide nonprofits on behalf of women’s rights and farmworker rights.

Thursday May 18
A versatile vocalist and treasure, Richard “Cookie” Thomas began his career in Philadelphia in 1960 when he had the opportunity, at age fourteen, to open for B.B. King. His longstanding career includes pint media, voice over, narration and film experience. Richard’s current CD, Touch You With A Song, produced and arranged by pianist John di Martino, is a complement to his collection, which includes The Pleasure Of Your Company and Holiday Classics, both arranged by pianist Lynne Arriale. Richard’s voice is especially suited to well-known classic standards. Richard draws his inspiration from the likes of Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, and Johnny Hartman. (www.cookiethomas.com)

Monday, May 22
Neville Frankel’s family history holds up a mirror to a universal truth, as stated by Rabbi Andrew Baker of the American Jewish Committee: all immigrants face the powerful tension between assimilation and cultural identity. Come meet the author of this spellbinding book, On the Sickle’s Edge.

Thursday, May 25
Sara Meyers will speak about “Protecting Assets from the Cost of Long-Term Care/ Utilizing Medicaid Home Care as a First Option.” Between our busy lives and family, we often have little time to focus on matters related to our aging. It’s important, however, to set aside time to plan for what’s ahead. Join Westchester elder law attorney Sara Meyers as she covers what estate and elder care planning options are available to you and your loved ones. Learn effective strategies for protecting your assets from the cost of long-term care as well as the ins and outs of Medicaid home care (including eligibility criteria and the application process). Ms. Meyers practices exclusively in elder law and has spent the past two decades protecting the rights of seniors and the disabled.

Monday, May 29
NO SAJE

SAJE Dine Around
Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 12 pm
All-inclusive Prix Fixe menu $24.00 pp
Contact ikstravel@aol.com to reserve a space

CHAR RESTAURANT
2 South Water Street, Greenwich, CT 06830

www.comsynrye.org
**Empty Nest-Full Life Team**

Our Empty Nesters’ meeting in May focused on future events for 2017-2018.

Join us this summer:

**July 22**

*S’mores ’n More* at the home of Susan and Scott Gould.

Gather around the fire pit for a BBQ, *s’mores & Havdalah*.

August 13 @ 1:00 pm

Bridgeport Bluefish Minor League baseball game

Coming up: Rhode Island Touro Synagogue and Mansions day trip, Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, Muse Paintbar, SUNY Purchase events, PepsiCo Gardens, Eldridge Street Eggrolls and Egg Creams, and the Jewish Heritage Museum.

Please contact us at csreemptynesters@gmail.com if you are interested in helping plan any of these future events.

A very special thank you to Cantor Cooperman and her husband, Allan Staples, for leading our highly successful movie/discussion class. We hope that you will be able to join us for future movies on Thursday evenings next fall.

**Green Team News**

This year the Green Team has been focusing on plastics. We are looking at ways in which we can diminish our use of plastic and how to recycle plastic articles. Here are some questions and answers about recycling plastic.

**What plastics can be recycled at the curb?**

Do not recycle plastic bags at the curb. Plastic bags are the worst contaminant in the recycling bin. Clean and dry your plastic bags and leave them at participating grocery stores. Also yogurt and dairy tubs #1-7 can be placed in curb site pick up bins.

**Avoiding plastic is better than recycling it.** Although many plastics are now recyclable, recycling does not negate the environmental damage done when the resource is extracted or the product is manufactured.

Please let a member of the Green Team know if you have questions about plastic or any other green topic. We will be providing more information in the coming months. We hope to see you at our next meeting in May to share your suggestions and ideas.

**Sisterhood of CSR**

WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM

*Stronger together*

**WRJ/Sisterhood**

**Year-End Supper**

Monday, June 5, 2017

6:30 pm at CSR

Program:

Photography Through the Eyes of One Photographer with Rhoda Levine

Sisterhood Members—Free

Non-Members—$15

You may bring one or two of your favorite pictures to share. If your photos are JPEG, please bring them on a flash drive. RSVP to Michelle Simon at 914-967-6262 by June 1

**Jewish History and Heritage Month**

Monday, May 8 at 6:00pm

at Michaelian Office Building, White Plains

Sponsored by the Westchester County Board of Legislators in cooperation with the Westchester Jewish Council, this year’s celebration honors UJA-Federation of New York on its centennial.

**Mazal Tov**

To Karen & Michael Stolzar on the marriage of their son Matthew to Sara Ly

To Susan & Paul Levinson on the marriage of their daughter, Lauren Hope Levinson, to Michael Goldsmith

To Froma Benerofe on being honored at the 2017 Westchester Jewish Community Services Gala

To Jodi & Herb Burack on the birth of their granddaughter, Zoe Grey Davis, daughter of Keri & Jeffery Davis
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:

Allen Rosenthal, father of Lauren Weiss
c
Jacob Raab, father of David Raab
Anne Mintz, grandmother of Jackie Cohen

For the Refugee Settlement Program, continued
Jacqueline & Steven Kabot
Frances Ginsberg
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick
Beverly Sherrid
Rabbi Gropper
Karen Bomson
Irene & Jonathan Metz
Marjorie Bomson
Shelley & Chuck Shotland
Pat Rind & Michael Siegel
Rye Presbyterian Church
Vivian & John Linder
Laura Leach & Richard Lawrence
Rachel Estroff & Joseph Liberti
Susan & Mike Siegel
Andrea & David Hesekiel
Eleanor Wagner

SYNAGOGUE FUND
Laurie & John Frolich in memory of Kenneth Foreman
Meryl & David Roath in memory of Marvin Perkel
Gloria & Barry Sternthal in honor of
Reece Dorfman’s bar mitzvah
Beth Singer in memory of Ira Jerry Poretsky
Peter Tarshis in memory of Steve Tarshis
Tatyana & Matvey Yalovitser

WAJERZEIT FUND
Margot & Richard De Sevo in memory of
Margot’s father, J. Warren Rauscher and
Alphonse De Sevo
Laura Leach & Richard Lawrence in memory of Lewis Leach,
Pembroke Leach, and Lillian Lawrence
Nancy & Roger Matles in memory of
Martin Matles and Lee Pearl
Margot & Richard DeSevo in memory of Verita & Richard
Osterer in memory of Max Osterer
Cindy Valk-Danish & Leslie Danish
in memory of Marcy Danish

Contributions

CANTOR COOPERMAN’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Lee Ehrman in memory of
Richard Ehrman and Lillian Rothschild
Shari & Adam Goldstein in honor of the bar mitzvah
of their son Benjamin Goldstein
Edith Carson in memory of Richard Ehrman

ISRAEL TRIP FUND FOR TEENS
Betty Knoop in memory of Clara Peeper

KADIMA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
Helen & Tom May in memory of Walter May,
brather of Tom and Mildred and Herbert Nash,
parents of Helen
Carol & Gerald Cohen in memory of
Yefim Lebinskaya’s mother
Viktorya & Jonathan Steiner
Andrea & Mark Kramer

RABBI FRANKEL’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Alyson & Michael Levine in appreciation to Rabbi Frankel
for her guidance and support of Charlotte
as she prepared for her bat mitzvah in Israel
Marianne & Richard Goldstein in memory of Gladys Goldstein
Shari & Adam Goldstein in honor of the bar mitzvah
of their son Benjamin Goldstein
Susan & Paul Levinson in appreciation to Rabbi Frankel
for the wedding ceremony of their daughter Lauren
and her husband Michael

RABBI GROPPER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Alyson & Michael Levine in appreciation to Rabbi Gropper
for his guidance and support of Charlotte
as she prepared for her bat mitzvah in Israel
Marianne & Richard Goldstein in memory of Gladys Goldstein
Shari & Adam Goldstein in honor of the bar mitzvah
of their son Benjamin Goldstein
Wishing healing and recovery to Gary Lane
from Elaine Losquadro

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND
Debra, Jessica & Lisa Nanus in honor of Laurie Landes’
three decades of leadership
Liz & Jack Priven in honor of Laurie Landes’ retirement

DONATIONS FOR SECURITY
Marina & Paul Glezer

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT
(SAJE) FUND
Elaine Lerner in memory of Anna, Louis, and Ralph Gelman
Herbert Blecker in memory of Gloria and Mary Blecker
Elaine Frey in memory of Mildred Goodman,
sister of Elaine and aunt of Amy Kashchy
Joan & Ron Cohen in honor of Gloria Sosin’s 95th birthday
Yvone Tropp
Marilyn & Herbert Chesekis in memory of Max Goldberg

SOCIAL ACTION FUND
For the Refugee Settlement Program
Cheryl & Samuel Dimon
Wayne Atwell
Shoshana & Seth Rosenfield
Carroll Claps

For the Refugee Settlement Program, continued
Jacqueline & Steven Kabot
Frances Ginsberg
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick
Beverly Sherrid
Rabbi Gropper
Karen Bomson
Irene & Jonathan Metz
Marjorie Bomson
Shelley & Chuck Shotland
Pat Rind & Michael Siegel
Rye Presbyterian Church
Vivian & John Linder
Laura Leach & Richard Lawrence
Rachel Estroff & Joseph Liberti
Susan & Mike Siegel
Andrea & David Hesekiel
Eleanor Wagner

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Martin Matles and Lee Pearl
Margot & Richard DeSevo in memory of Verita & Richard
Osterer in memory of Max Osterer
Cindy Valk-Danish & Leslie Danish
in memory of Marcy Danish
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 __________________________

☐ In Memory of __________________________

Occasion __________________________

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