CELEBRATING THE HIGH HOLY DAYS
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**
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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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Executive Vice President ............Michael Foreman
Vice President ............................Jackie Kabot
Vice President .........................Susan Zeitlin
Vice President .......................Seth Rosenfield
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Recording Secretary .....................Rick Abrams
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**WRJ/Sisterhood Leadership**
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**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Gary & Carrie Ratner
Harlan & Lanie
Rye Brook, NY

Seam & Arielle Diskin
Sloane & Julius
Mamaroneck, NY

Jonathan & Alice Borghini
Zachary & Anna
Rye, NY

Lee & Jackie Freund
Jordan & Brooke
Rye Brook, NY

Vadim & Marcy Axelrod
Victoria & Zoe
Rye Brook, NY

Michael & Yvette Montvelisky
Joshua & Andrew
Rye, NY

Gilly & Kara Zimmer
Harrison, Arielle & Jesse
Rye, NY

Stephen & Jennifer Palgon
Wylie, Dashiel & Bodhi
Mamaroneck, NY

Ari & Idil Barkan
Ella & Derin
Rye, NY

**MAZAL TOV**

To grandparents Donna and Bill DeLynn and parents Kimberly and Andrew Regenstreich on the birth of Aliza Rose

**FIRST FRIDAY TORAH STUDY AT 7 AM**

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. Bagels & beverages are kindly provided by the Men’s Club. Torah texts are also available for use.

We hope you can join us (no RSVP required, just come).
## October 2016 Calendar

| Saturday, October 1 | 8:45 am | Torah Study Service  
CJL Grades 3-6 |
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, October 2</strong></td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Rosh Hashanah Eve at CSR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Monday, October 3 (Rosh Hashanah-1st Day)** | 10:00 am | Rosh Hashanah at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College  
11:00 am | Family Worship (parents & children grades 3-6)  
4:00 pm | Young Family Service at CSR (parents & children up to age 5)  
5:00 pm | Tashlich at Oakland Beach |
| **Tuesday, October 4 (Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day)** | | ECC and Office Closed |
| **Wednesday, October 5** | 3:30 pm | CSA  
4:00 pm | CJL Grades K-7 |
| **Thursday, October 6** | 11:30 am | SAJE  
7:30 pm | Choir Rehearsal  
8:00 pm | Green Team Meeting |
| **Friday, October 7** | 7:00 am | First Friday Torah Study  
6:30 pm | Shabbat Services |
| **Saturday, October 8** | 8:45 am | Torah Study Service  
CJL Grades 3-6 |
| **Monday, October 10 (Columbus Day—ECC & CJL Closed)** | 11:30 am | SAJE  
3:30 pm | CSA |
| **Tuesday, October 11 (ECC Closed)** | 8:00 pm | Kol Nidrei at CSR |
| **Wednesday, October 12 (Yom Kippur)** | 9:00 am | Young Family Service at Purchase College  
10:00 am | Yom Kippur at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College  
11:00 am | Family Worship (parents & children grades 3-6) |
| **Thursday, October 13** | 11:30 am | SAJE |
| **Friday, October 14** | 5:15 pm | Sharing Shabbat & Hot Shot Shabbat  
7:45 pm | Shabbat Services |
| **Saturday, October 15** | 8:45 am | Torah Study Service  
CJL Grades 3-6  
J-Life 4th Grade / bar mitzvah info session  
11:15 am | Bailey Goodman, bar mitzvah  
5:00 pm | Talia Gardner, bar mitzvah |
| **Sunday, October 16** | 10:00 am | Building the Sukkah  
11:00 am | CSR Teens Social Action Sunday Event  
6:30 pm | Sushi Under the Stars |
| **Monday, October 17 (Sukkot)** | 11:45 am | ECC early dismissal  
6:15 pm | CJL 7th Grade and CSR Teens (8-10)  
7:00 pm | Investment Committee Meeting  
8:15 pm | Board of Trustees Meeting |
| **Wednesday, October 19** | 3:30 pm | CSA  
4:00 pm | CJL Grades K-7—Pizza in the Sukkah |
| **Thursday, October 20** | 10:00 am | Give Us a King—Adult Learning with Rabbi Gropper  
11:30 am | SAJE |
| **Friday, October 21** | 6:30 pm | Shabbat Services  
7:45 pm | Shabbat dinner in the Sukkah sponsored by the Green Team |
| **Saturday, October 22** | 8:45 am | Torah Study Service  
CJL Grades 3-6  
J-Life 3rd Grade  
11:15 am | Benjamin Swartz, bar mitzvah |
| **Sunday, October 23** | 5:00 pm | Simchat Torah / New Student Consecration Service & Dinner |
| **Monday, October 24 (ECC Closed)** | 10:00 am | Simchat Torah Yizkor & Luncheon  
6:15 pm | CJL 7th Grade & CSR Teens (8-10) |
| **Wednesday, October 26** | 3:30 pm | CSA  
4:00 pm | CJL Grades K-7 |
| **Thursday, October 27** | 10:00 am | Adult Learning with Rabbi Rothman  
11:30 am | SAJE  
7:00 pm | Mah Jongg  
7:15 pm | ATID  
7:30 pm | Choir Rehearsal |
| **Friday, October 28** | 7:45 pm | Shabbat Services with Choir |
| **Saturday, October 29** | 8:45 am | Torah Study Service  
CJL Grades 3-6  
I-Select 5th and 6th Grades  
11:15 am | Lucas Kavulich, bar mitzvah  
2:00 pm | Jr. COSY Event |
| **Sunday, October 30** | 9:00 am | ECC Family Fun Run  
12:15 pm | Empty Nest Walking Food Tour (off-site) |
| **Monday, October 31 (CJL Closed)** | 11:30 am | SAJE  
8:00 pm | Executive Committee Meeting |

### Shabbat Services for 5777!

On the First Friday of each month and on holiday weekends, services will begin at 6:30 pm. All other Friday evening services will begin at 7:45 pm.

### Live Video Streaming

Community Synagogue of Rye provides live video streaming for Friday evening and holiday services. To access the live video stream visit www.comsynrye.org/live-video-streaming.

www.comsynrye.org
As we approach the High Holy Days, it is hard to believe that this will be my seventh Rosh Hashanah at Community Synagogue of Rye. What a blessing it has been to feel each fall that I have even deeper roots and relationships here as we prepare to welcome the New Year together. I must admit that the transition from summer to autumn this year has felt a little more frantic than in the past. As you know, Rabbi Gropper has been recovering from his serious cycling accident in mid-July. I, for my part, moved houses twice, fractured my ankle, and am imminently anticipating the birth of my second child as I write this article. (Thinking about the New Year, the phrase “pregnant with possibility” has never seemed so apt.)

While navigating these various challenges this summer, Rabbi Gropper and I have often talked about these weeks testing our strength, our vulnerability, and ultimately also our faith. At times we simply had to both laugh and cry; there was a while when between the two of us we only had two working legs! Yet I know we are also both grateful for the support and care of our colleagues, congregants, and circles of support, which have buoyed us through physical and psychological distress.

Pushing myself to walk through pain at times reminded me of a Hassidic parable that is often associated with the High Holy Days and the spiritual process of *teshuvah* (“repentance” or “return”): It once happened that a king’s son was at a distance of a hundred days’ journey from his father. His father sent for him to return home but worrying he lacked the endurance for such a long journey, he replied, “I cannot.” So his father sent another message to him saying, “Go as far as you are able, and I will come the rest of the way to meet you.”

Interestingly, there are various twists on this story that I’ve heard over the years from different teachers and books about how the two men came to live so distantly. In some versions, the king and his son had a falling out and the son ran away. We might imagine in this scenario that the gulf between them is not only one of sheer miles but also an emotional one. In other variations the father intentionally sent his son off to seek wisdom or learn a trade, and while their relationship is intact, the son is just too emmeshed in his new life to start trekking so far back. Regardless of the beginning though, that powerful punch line at the end is always the same. “Go as far as you are able, and I will come the rest of the way to meet you.” The truth is, it often doesn’t matter as much why we wind up someplace, but rather how we manage to move forward on the path that lies ahead.

As in most rabbinic parables about kings and their sons, we are supposed to understand this *Hassidic* one as a metaphor for our relationship with God during this High Holy Day season. Whether we feel estranged from God, a loved one, or even just from our best selves, the legend urges us not to forsake the journey of return and renewal just because it is foreboding. Even if we fear we can’t possibly reach the ultimate destination for that relationship, we are challenged to push ourselves to take those first steps and trust that they will be enough—that God, our fellow humans, our essential selves will meet us halfway if we make an earnest effort.

It is hard to do *teshuvah*, whether we understand this as literally repenting and concretely asking for forgiveness from another or taking a long look in the mirror and resolving to change some part ourselves. *Teshuvah* requires that we admit we are imperfect and demands of us a degree of vulnerability that may truly feel uncomfortable. And of course, we are never guaranteed that the person from whom we seek absolution will respond in the way we hope, just as we cannot guarantee our efforts of self-improvement will all come to fruition. Yet that *Hassidic* parable and the High Holy Day liturgy we will soon read again remind us to have faith. Or, as a wonderful card a friend recently gave me reads, “Leap and the net will appear.”

So as we prepare to welcome the new year of 5777, that is my hope for us all. Let us leap! Let us leap into the deep introspection and repair work of *teshuvah* over these upcoming Days of Awe. Let us leap into new opportunities to learn, grow, connect, and give back. Let us leap into whatever next step of our life’s journey feels a little daunting right now and yet is calling out to us like that king in the tale.

I look forward, God-willing, to sharing the exciting next stage of my own family’s life journey with our CSR community in the weeks ahead. So if I do not get to greet you in person during the High Holy Days, please accept Andrew’s, Miriam’s and my heartfelt wishes for a happy, healthy, and joyous year head.

*L’Shanah Tovah u’Metukah* (Sweet and Happy New Year).

Rabbi Leora Frankel
What is it that we love so much about the Jewish Holidays? Is it the cooler, autumnal weather that finally arrives with the blast of the shofar, the chance to connect with old friends and familiar faces, or the opportunity to gather as one community, shoulder to shoulder, lift our voices in prayer and share our joys and sorrows? I would say it is all of the above and more, as each of us brings to the High Holy Days sweet memories of family and friends, some departed and still held precious in our hearts, that surround us when we light candles, sip wine, break bread and share a festive meal—the past and the present seamlessly blending into a personal but universal tapestry that defines the Jewish people.

What makes it so important for us to come together as a spiritual community—as the members of Community Synagogue of Rye—to welcome in the Jewish New Year? As we know from many mornings of Torah study, the Jewish people gather strength from worshipping together. It is built into the DNA of who we are. From the earliest days of our ancestors, we gathered in the tents of Jacob, to offer our prayers and thanks to the one true God. Now however, the concept of community is shifting, perhaps for the first time in many generations, and with it the expectation for shared congregation. As part of the learning experience of our current Board of Trustees, we are reading a book called “Inspired Jewish Leadership” by Dr. Erica Brown—a good and easy read for anyone interested in the shape of things to come. In this work, the author talks about the changing definition of community. In the days of our parents, and grandparents, community was easier to define and those who came together to worship generally shared a common language, history, and societal expectations. They joined a congregation out of a sense of obligation, with the knowledge that there were few other outlets for their Judaism. But that world has changed. Individuality, our likes and dislikes (think Facebook), define us and are exposed for all to see. Gen Xers (born 1965-80) and Millennials (born 1981-99) want to be inspired, engaged and motivated; they do not join organizations just for the sake of joining. Their Jewish worship and participation is genuine, and will likely emerge on their own terms.

How does this impact all of us? We remain a congregational family, and whether we join together at Community Synagogue of Rye, at The Performing Arts Center of Purchase College, or any other interim site, worshipping together provides coherence, enduring values, and the ability to transmit these practices to the next generation.

Our commitment is to engage our newest members and equally retain our older cohorts. First, we will listen more deeply to understand where all of our congregants are coming from—what makes them come to us in the first place and how do we motivate them to stay. Second, we will examine our dues structure to understand what is fair and equitable to the largest number of congregants, and make changes where needed to address inequalities in membership. And lastly, we will be the warm and welcoming community that we say we are—so that all who come to us seeking a spiritual home find reason to stay.

I would like to share a poem with you, from our very own “Mishkan T’filah” (High Holy Day prayer book) that speaks to me whenever I think of community:

May the door of this synagogue be wide enough
  to receive all who hunger for love, all who are lonely for friendship.

May it welcome all who have cares to unburden,
  thanks to express, hopes to nurture.

May the door of this synagogue be narrow enough
  to shut out pettiness and pride, envy and enmity.

May its threshold be no stumbling block
  to young or straying feet.

May it be too high to admit complacency,
  selfishness and harshness.

May this synagogue be, for all who enter,
  the doorway to a richer and more meaningful life.

Here is hoping that this Jewish New Year, 5777, brings the blessings of peace, the joys of a sweet New Year, and the gift of good health to you and all whom you hold dear.

L’Shanah Tovah.
CO HOOSE LIFE

Cantor Melanie Cooperman • mcooperman@comsynrye.org

“For this commandment, is not too hard for you, nor too remote. It is not in heaven, that you should say: ‘Who will go up for us to heaven and bring it down to us, that we may do it?’ Nor is it beyond the sea that you should say: ‘Who will cross the sea for us and bring it over to us, that we may do it?’ No, it is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart, and you can do it. I’ve put before you life and death, blessing and curse; choose life so you and your offspring would live.” (edited from Deut 30:11-20)

We read these verses on Yom Kippur morning. Every year I contemplate what does it mean to uv’charta bachayim—to choose life. There can be many interpretations. Here are some of my thoughts:

First, think about how you can choose life within your own life, by finding joy even in difficult times. During my undergraduate days at the University of Minnesota, one of the required texts was Michael Shurtleff’s classic book on acting, “Audition,” Where Shurtleff writes about the importance of finding the love and the humor in even in the darkest scenes. The attempt to find love creates strikingly human moments that resonate deeply. Offstage, I find value as well. I look for the best in people, even in their worst moments and humor even in the most difficult situations. I look for light when it seems pitch black. Challenging ourselves to be less cynical, to see love and humor, is a way to choose life.

Another way to choose life is through action; by supporting others. In September, we had our first Tzedek council meeting of the year. All areas of social action gathered together to share projects which we will focus on throughout the next year. The scope of projects ranged from local to global. They included feeding the hungry in Port Chester and raising money for shelter boxes (supplies for victims of disaster). Leaving that night, I felt incredibly inspired by the way our community chooses life by supporting others to live more fully.

During this time of year for reflection and consideration, imagine choosing life along-side members of our community’s social action programs and Tzedek council. There are so many wonderful opportunities. Please contact me, one of our Rabbis or lay leaders and ask how you can get involved.

L’Shanah Tovah u’Metukah. May it be a good year, a sweet year, and one of finding meaning and purpose both within ourselves and through our commitment to each other.

WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
Sisterhood of Community Synagogue of Rye

Your support of WRJ/Sisterhood provided during the past few months:

» Refreshments for the Synagogue Annual Meeting
» Tanakh for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Students
» Camp Scholarships
» Religious School Opening Day Refreshments
» Seed Money for the Rye Women’s Interfaith
» Contribution Toward Backpacks for Helping Hands for the Homeless and Hungry
» Challah and Flowers for the High Holy Days

With your help we can continue to support the Synagogue

Lishana Tova Tiktoform! May you be inscribed for a sweet year filled with good health, prosperity and peace.

Co-Presidents,
Brianne Goldstein, Carol Meyers and Janet Meyers

EMPTY-NEST FULL LIFE TEAM
FOOD WALKING TOUR

Our second Pre-High Holy Day Seder spearheaded by Susan Taplin and her great team was a meaningful way to gather together and transition from summer to the upcoming holidays.

Please plan to join us on Sunday, October 30th for a Lower East Side Food Walking Tour. The tour is from 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm and the cost is $30 per person payable to Community Synagogue of Rye (on memo line indicate Big Onion Tour). Bring or mail in your check to the Synagogue along with your contact information (email & phone number). Space is limited so your check will hold your reservation.

We will meet at 12:15 pm where the tour begins at the Southwest corner of Delancey and Essex Streets, in front of the Chase Bank.

We welcome your participation and suggestions for other activities as we plan for the New Year.

You can reach us at cseemptynesters@gmail.com.
HIGH HOLY DAYS

HIGH HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

EREV ROSh HASHANAH  Sunday, Oct. 2
at Community Synagogue of Rye  8:00 pm

ROSh HASHANAH MORNING  Monday, Oct. 3
at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College
Main Service  10:00 am
Babysitting and Youth Programs for grades K-7  10:00 am
Family Worship (parents & children grades 3-6)  11:00 am

ROSh HASHANAH AFTERNOON  Monday, Oct. 3
at Community Synagogue of Rye
Service for families with young children (0-6)  4:00 pm
Followed by reception
Tashlich at Oakland Beach  5:00 pm

KOL NIDREI/EREV YOM KIPPUR  Tuesday, Oct. 11
at Community Synagogue of Rye  8:00 pm

YOM KIPPUR DAY  Wednesday, Oct. 12
at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College
Service for families with young children (0-6)  9:00 am
Main Service  10:00 am
Babysitting and Youth Programs for grades K-7  10:00 am
Family Worship (parents & children grades 3-6)  11:00 am
Yom Kippur Enrichment Options  1:00 pm
Afternoon Service  3:15 pm
Yizkor-Memorial Service  5:00 pm
Neilah-Concluding Service  6:00 pm

YOM KIPPUR ENRICHMENT OPTIONS
at The Performing Arts Center
at Purchase College

Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 1:15 pm

Reflect, meditate and stir your soul following the congregational service

- The Koby Hayon Acoustic Project: Jewish music sifted through a jazz lens, featuring guitar, bass, flute and percussion.
- Participate in a dynamic and informative discussion on the current state of affairs in the Middle East with Herb Blecker, Marty Edelman and Bob Goodkind.
- Visit the Neuberger Museum of Art at Purchase College.

FAMILY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE
FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN
GRADES 3-6

Rosh Hashanah, Monday, October 3
& Yom Kippur, Wednesday, October 12
from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
at The Performing Arts Center
at Purchase College

Experience this interactive and uplifting service, led by Rick Abrams, Director of Jewish Family Life and Greg Kellner, Director of URJ 6-Points Sci-Tech Academy, where families can pray, sing, study, and reflect together.

We would love for families to actively participate. Please let us know if you plan to join us so that we may reach out to you before the holidays.

Please visit http://tinyurl.com/zxnwper to sign up.

HIGH HOLY DAY HUNGER PROJECT
2016/5777

While we may choose to fast on Yom Kippur, many of our neighbors are simply unable to secure three meals a day. Please join Community Synagogue of Rye’s efforts to collect non-perishable items to provide nutritional and helpful support for those less fortunate. Over the past 10 years alone, we have collected over 61,692 pounds (30+ tons) of items due to your generosity. The Food Bank of Westchester will collect our contributions and distribute them to more than 256 food pantries. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to perform the mitzvah of giving tzedakah. Many thanks from the Social Action Committee and from all the people you will help.

Details for contributions:
- Please pick up a bag on Rosh Hashanah and return it filled with non-perishable food on Wednesday, October 12—Yom Kippur day only.
- Collection will take place outside the main entrance of The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, where Social Action and synagogue members will be assisting.
- Collection will begin at 8:30 am and conclude at 4 pm.
- Do not bring glass containers or perishables.

Marci and David Raab, Chairs

www.comsynrye.org
COME BUILD THE SYNAGOGUE SUKKAH

Sunday, October 16 at 10:00 am

It’s that time of year again. The Men’s Club invites adults and teens to help build the sukkah.
No experience necessary. We will provide the tools and delicious cider and donuts.
For questions call the synagogue office at 914-967-6262.

SUSHI UNDER THE STARS
WOMEN’S SUKKOT GATHERING

Sunday, October 16
from 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Join Cantor Cooperman for a special Sukkot gathering for women of all ages (including teens)! We’ll enjoy sushi and other delicious fare as we celebrate the feminine aspects of the fall harvest festival. We’ll also raise a glass—of sake or cider—and toast to the New Year. The cost of dinner has been generously offset but we ask you to please bring a tzedakah contribution (suggested donation of $18 cash or a check made out to WRJ) to support HIAS and its work on the international refugee crisis.

To help us plan for enough food, RSVP to Jon Rekedal, Clergy Assistant, by October 11 at clergyassistant@comsynrye.org.

NEW STUDENT CONSECRATION & SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATIONS

Celebrate as we read the end of the Torah and then begin again!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Dinner
*Dinner and ice cream are on us!

5:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Simchat Torah Service and New Student Consecration Celebration
Consecration of New CJL students, unroll the Torah and Israeli dancing with Rick Abrams

6:30 pm Ice Cream Truck
Sweet treats to celebrate this joyous occasion!

*Please RSVP to Abby at rs@comsynrye.org and reply with number of adults/children attending dinner.
EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING

THE ECC WELCOMES FALL

Dale Oberlander, ECC Director • doberlander@comsynrye.org

The ECC is off to a great start and it is wonderful to see the building coming back to life after the summer break. October is the month when we begin to see art projects and photographs appear on the bulletin boards and children walking through the halls with little lunch boxes in hand.

We can hear the happy voice of Marc the music man and smell something yummy made from apples coming out of the kitchen. The children are feeling safe and comfortable in their new surroundings and we are ready for the learning to begin.

In October we will spend as much time outdoors as possible, putting our new outdoor classroom to good use, observing nature and looking for signs of the changing season. Our garden continues to provide us with beautiful and delicious vegetables that the children have enjoyed harvesting and eating.

ECC IMPORTANT DATES

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 3</td>
<td>ECC closed for Rosh Hashanah</td>
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<td>Tuesday, October 4</td>
<td>ECC closed for Rosh Hashanah Toddler Time Begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 5</td>
<td>ECC closed for Columbus Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, October 10</td>
<td>ECC closed for Yom Kippur Sharing Shabbat hosted by the Awesome Apples</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October 11</td>
<td>ECC closed for Yom Kippur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 12</td>
<td>Sukkot Experience Day (11:45 dismissal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 14</td>
<td>ECC closed for Simchat Torah</td>
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<td>Monday, October 17</td>
<td>Family Fun Run</td>
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<td>Monday, October 24</td>
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<td>Sunday, October 30</td>
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A bountiful harvest of tomatoes, peppers, potatoes and beans!

There is nothing more thrilling than finding a potato in the dirt.

This is our Gift to You!

FREE JEWISH BOOKS OR MUSIC FOR CHILDREN UP TO 8-YEARS-OLD. Register your family at: pjlibrary.org/ny/comsynrye

Please make a donation to support this wonderful organization http://tinyurl.com/zgqkkbm
Parents who want to be a driving voice in Jewish learning and connection are invited to join the CJL Jewish Engagement Team. We will meet to explore innovative trends in Jewish learning and articulate important Jewish values that we want to transmit to our children. We will identify challenges and create avenues for change. We will be a Jewish engagement think tank, a group of parents who are not afraid to think outside the box in pursuit of meaningful Jewish experiences for our children. Parent input is crucial in shaping Jewish learning that is meaningful and that responds to how we live today. When you become a part of this kind of thoughtful process, your own Jewish identity will deepen. You can be a part of this dynamic team!

Contact Marnie Mallah, Team Leader, to participate or for questions at marniem@me.com or Laurie Landes, Education Director at LLandes@comsynrye.org.

Here Comes Sukkot...and J-Life!

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

With the month of Tishrei here, the Jewish High Holy Days are upon us. And what follows them is one of the oldest and most important Jewish Holidays in the Torah: Sukkot!

In the Torah, Sukkot is referred to as HehChag/The Holiday. It is the third of the three festivals. Agriculturally, it celebrates the final harvest of all of the produce...apples, potatoes, squash, and pumpkins. And even as the weather in the fall changes from the warmth of the summer, Sukkot is the only holiday in which we are told, by God, to BE HAPPY!

I love Sukkot.
I love being outdoors.
I love eating meals outdoors.
And yes, it makes me happy.

Wishing for you all a good, happy and sweet new year...and a Happy Sukkot as well!

Help Keep Children Warm This Winter: Clothing Drive

Bring your new & gently used hand-me-downs to Community Synagogue of Rye Between October 1st and October 23rd
The donation bin is located in the school entrance

The Sharing Shelf seeks donations of winter clothing, for infants, children and teens. Sizes 4T-8 are critically needed.
Donations of new socks & new underwear, new hats and new gloves are greatly appreciated but we do not accept used ones.

The Sharing Shelf does not collect adult clothing.

Questions? Contact carrienagel1203@gmail.com

The Sharing Shelf, a program of Family Services of Westchester, a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, provides 2,000 children from nearly 50 schools, hospitals, food pantries and social service agencies with a week’s worth of clothing every year.

Visit us at www.fsw.org for more information.

www.comsynrye.org
OUR B’NEI MITZVAH OF OCTOBER

Benjamin Shapiro

My name is Ben Shapiro and I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on October 7. I am the son of Steven and Staci Shapiro and I have an older brother Jack, who is a sophomore at Blind Brook High School. I am an eighth grader at Blind Brook Middle School. I enjoy playing ice hockey and soccer, hanging out with my friends and spending time with my family. My Torah portion is Vayeilech from the Book of Deuteronomy. It takes place during Moses’ final days when he reminds his people they must read the Torah to make sure that the lessons it teaches are always remembered and passed down to future generations. For my mitzvah project, I will be raising money to benefit the NY Hockey Rangers and The Wheel Chair Sports Federation of NY, whose members include amputees, wounded warriors, and athletes who, due to injuries and or illness, have had the ability to play stand up hockey taken from them.

Talia Gardner

My name is Talia Gardner and I will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, October 15. I am the daughter of Stephanie and Nick Gardner, and my brother Kyle is in eleventh grade. I am an eighth grader at Rye Middle School. My Torah Portion is V’zot Hab’racha from the Book of Deuteronomy. For my mitzvah project I lead an organization known as Soul Teens. My friends and I get together frequently and do projects to help women who are fighting breast cancer. We did one project where we all put jars of pre made food together for mothers who can’t cook for their children because they are ill. It was very meaningful for me to know that I am making a difference in these families lives.

Bailey Goodman

My name is Bailey Goodman and I am a seventh grader at Rye Middle School. My parents are Caren and Alex Goodman. I have a younger sister, Della, in fifth grade, and a younger brother, Davis, in second grade. I enjoy playing basketball and lacrosse, watching movies, and spending time with my friends and family. I will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on October 15. My Torah portion is Haazinu from the Book of Deuteronomy. It is the story of when Moses leads the Jews to Israel after 50 years in the desert, but cannot enter Israel with them. It is Moses’s final song before he dies. For my mitzvah project, I volunteered at the Sharing Shelf in Port Chester. I held a clothing drive and helped set up for the spring Teen Boutique.

Jack Reisner

My name is Jack Reisner and I will be called to the Torah on October 15 as a bar mitzvah. My parents are Michael and Jennifer Reisner and I have a younger brother, Maddox, who is in fifth grade and a younger sister, Eden, who is in fourth grade. I am a seventh grader at Rye Neck Middle School and I enjoy playing sports and playing with animals. My Torah portion is Haazinu from Deuteronomy and it’s about the final days of Moses’s life when he reads a poem to the Israelites, which urges them to listen to everything God has done for them. He then is ordered by God to climb up Mount Nebo and die there as a punishment for his anger at Meribath-Kadesh. For my mitzvah project I volunteered at an animal shelter where I prepared dog toys, trained dogs, and helped clean the shelter. This fulfills the Tzar Ba’Alei Hayim mitzvah which tells us to have compassion for animals.

Benjamin Swartz

My name is Benjamin Swartz and I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on October 22. I am the son of Michael and Fabienne Swartz and I have two older sisters, one in tenth grade at Rye High School and the other in twelfth grade at the French American School of New York. I am an eighth grader at Rye Middle School. I enjoy playing video games, watching TV, and playing tennis. My Torah portion is Ki Tisa from the Book of Exodus. It is the story of the 3 pilgrimage festivals: Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. During each of those holidays, the Israelites are supposed to make an offering to God and are being taught to share their earnings and not take everything for granted. For my mitzvah project, I chose to volunteer at the Humane Society in New Rochelle by playing with cats without homes. I’m also donating money, and will be collecting donations of dog and cat food, old blankets, toys, cleaning products, etc. that I will bring to the Humane Society.

Lucas Kavulich

I am the son of Jody and Gary Kavulich, my name is Lucas. My bar mitzvah is on October 29. I am an eighth grader at Rye Middle School. My mitzvah project is a monthly recycling initiative where I will be collecting and delivering all electronic waste (cables, computers, etc.) from the 110 apartments in my cooperative building. My Torah portion is B’reishit from the book of Genesis, which is based on the first 3 days of creation. I play tennis religiously, no pun intended, and I am hoping to make the Rye High Tennis Team.

www.comsynrye.org 11
Join your fellow congregants of all ages in doing a “Mitzvah of the Month” this year! Each month, our community will fulfill a particular mitzvah (“commandment,” though often also a good deed). We’ll teach you its Hebrew name, a related Jewish text, and give you concrete ways you can fulfill this mitzvah as individuals or in a family or larger group. Finally, we’ll invite you to report back and celebrate your mitzvah work by sending in a photo, blog post, or other reflection that we may publish.

October’s Mitzvah: Hachnasat Orchim – Welcoming Guests/Strangers
We read in Genesis about Abraham’s radical hospitality to the three strangers who appeared near his tent one day: “And he lifted his eyes and behold, he saw three men approaching him. When he saw them, he ran to meet them at the tent door, bowed down, and said, ‘My Lords, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by, I pray, from your servant. Let a little water be fetched and wash your feet, and you shall recline under the tree. And I will fetch a morsel of bread…” (Genesis 18:2-4). Then despite their old age and Abraham’s frailty, he and Sarah hurried to prepare a full meal for their unexpected guests, becoming the biblical archetypes for gracious hosts. Later in our Torah—in fact several dozen times—this message of welcoming in the stranger is commanded more broadly and linked to our own wandering origins: “The strangers who reside with you shall be to you as your citizens; you shall love each one as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Leviticus 19:34).

Fulfill the Mitzvah this Month by…
• Building a sukkah (inquire about borrowing one of ours) and inviting in guests for a meal.
• Reaching out to a new family in your neighborhood or school to welcome them.
• Volunteering to be a greeter at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College on the High Holy Days. Contact Paul Levenson at plevinson@mclaughlinstern.com.
• Donating to HIAS (http://www.hias.org/) or another organization advocating for worldwide refugees.

Send us a photo of yourself doing this mitzvah and we’ll post it to celebrate!
E-mail a photo or brief write-up of your mitzvah to communications@comsynrye.org and we’ll post it on our blog and Facebook page.

Contact Rabbi Frankel for more information about our new Mitzvah of the Month program.
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, October 3
Rosh Hashanah: No SAJE

Thursday, October 6
Dine Around at Epsteins
RSVP to Iris Sampliner at ikstravel@aol.com

Monday October 10
Program followed by lunch. Details to follow.

Thursday October 13
Ann Friedman joins us from the New York Landmarks Conservancy to discuss historic NYC synagogues. She has an MS. in Historic Preservation. Ann also lived in Hong Kong, where she advocated for the preservation of the synagogue, Ohel Leah, built by Iraqi-Jewish traders in the early 20th century.

Monday October 17
Sukkot: NO SAJE

Thursday October 20
Sukkot is a fun holiday, especially if you enjoy sitting outside as the weather begins to change. Kohelet, known in English, as Ecclesiastes, is very similar. Read selections from the sacred text assigned to Sukkot with Rick Abrams, Director of Jewish Family Life.

Monday, October 24
Simchat Torah service and Yizkor at 10:00 am followed by luncheon.

Thursday, October 27
Join Andi Hessekiel for our first session of personal essay writing. Andi encourages us to write and “publish” our work by sharing it with one another. No previous experience is necessary—and you can be a writer or a listener in the session. The prompt for the session is: When I was a child, I never imagined that I would…..

Monday, October 31:
Book discussion of “All The Light I Cannot See” by Anthony Doerr. From the highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning Anthony Doerr, the beautiful, stunningly ambitious instant New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Join Harry Mix for a review of this fascinating book.

FOUR SYNAGOGUES ENGAGE WITH ISRAEL: FOUNDATIONS FOR A NEW RELATIONSHIP

A Shalom Hartman Institute Video Lecture Series
Led by Rabbis Jaymee Alpert, Leora Frankel, Eytan Hammerman, Howard Goldsmith & Daniel Gropper

Through video lectures, text study, and lively group discussion, we are pleased to bring the world-renowned faculty of the Shalom Hartman Institute into our Harrison/Rye/Port Chester community this Fall/Winter.

What are the benefits of Jewish sovereignty? How should a Jewish state exercise military power ethically? How do we create and maintain a Jewish democracy? Why should American Jews care about Israel? What values should a Jewish state embody? What can Israel offer the world?

Explore the Jewish values and ideas at the foundation of our relationship with Israel.

Each session includes text study and discussion led by one of our five rabbis, a video lecture by Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman, and a video dialogue between Rabbi Hartman and other top scholars and experts. Join us for this wonderful opportunity to learn from great scholars, from our local rabbis and from each other as we engage in thinking about the meaning that Israel can have in our lives and what our role might be in envisioning and building the future of the Jewish State.

Thursdays | Nov. 3, 10, 17, Dec. 1, 8, 15, Jan. 5, 12, 19
7:00–9:30 pm
$50 Materials Cost.

Exact locations and topics given upon registration.
Register by Oct. 31 via clergyassistant@comsynrye.org or call Jon at 914-967-6262.
**CONTRIBUTIONS**

**BEAUTIFICATION FUND**
Jayne & Harris Maslansky in memory of Charles R. Gevertz

**CANTOR COOPERMAN’S DISCRETIONARY FUND**
In memory of Jack Mendelson
Maxine Lax
Caryl & Gil Weinstein
Beverly & Les Cheikin
Carolyn Menell Shulman
Alicia & Robert Oberhand
Phyllis & Peter Borgia
Susan & Paul Levinson
Elaine Lerner
Stanley Ross
Abbye & Steve Bosses
Brianne & Sanford Goldstein in memory of Jerome Belson

**HESED**
Andrea & Keith Hughes in memory of
Esther Twicken, mother of Irene Lustgarten
William Zales, father of Andrea Hughes
In honor of Rabbi Gropper & Rabbi Frankel’s continued recovery

**KADIMA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**
in memory of Erica Cherney, mother of Karen Cherney Zaltz
Michele & Neil Fredman
Joan & Ron Cohen
Amy DeLynn & Michael Frenklakh
Donna & William DeLynn
Carol & Gerald Cohen
Jacey Taub
Carol & Gerald Cohen in memory of Susan Deutsch,
Jack Mendelson, Harry Siegel, & Morris Cohen
Jacey Taub in memory of
Dorothy Brody, Jennifer Kohn’s grandmother
Marilyn Miller in memory of Philip & Melvin Kurtz

**POND AND BEYOND FUND**
Donna & William DeLynn in memory of Robert DeLynn

**RABBI FRANKEL’S DISCRETIONARY FUND**
Roberta & Peter Gottlieb in memory of Milton Gottlieb
Rose Becker in memory of Morris Becker
Susan & Paul Levinson in honor of
Rabbi Frankel’s recovery & continued good health
Julie Aronwald in memory of Alla Vayner
Debbi Baden & family in honor of the
baby naming of Maxwell Philip Almassian
Susan & Pablo Hendler in memory of Irving Goldfarb

**RABBI GROPPER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND**
Susan & Paul Levinson in honor of
Rabbi Gropper’s recovery & continued good health

**SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT (SAJE) FUND**
Marilyn & Herb Cheskis in memory of
Ida Goldberg, mother of Marilyn Cheskis
Susan & Gary Taplin in memory of Bernice Belkin
Caryl & Gil Weinstein in memory of
Henry Rudner, father of Caryl Weinstein
Elaine Frey in memory of
Mathilda Tepper, mother of Elaine Frey & grandmother of Amy Kashchy

**SYNAGOGUE FUND**
Karen & Doug Sweetbaum & family in memory of
Carl Wess, beloved father of Bonnie Wess Caley
Susan & Norman Cicelsky
Marty Edelman in honor of CSR High Holy Day Services
Burton Berenson in memory of Jack Mendelson
Gloria, Paul & Susan Levinson in memory of
Saul Levinson
Robin Kamin in memory of
Dorothy Brody, grandmother of Jennifer Kohn
Sherry Feuerman in memory of
Dorothy Brody, grandmother of Jennifer Kohn
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick in memory of Joseph Max Rudnick

**YAHREIT FUND**
Monique & Burton Haimes in memory of David Haimes

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**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:*
Bere Antonini, mother of Jason Gorevic
Rhoda Psaty Holzer, sister of Carol Goldstone
Richard Propper, husband of Lois Propper

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**SHARON GARDENS CEMETERY PLOTS AVAILABLE**
At Community Synagogue of Rye, we embrace the values of community and loving kindness and support our congregants in times of joy and sorrow. In keeping with these values, we make available for purchase to synagogue members a limited number of cemetery plots at Sharon Gardens in Valhalla, NY (www.sharongardens.org).

Plots are sold in groups of four and the price is $8,800. You may want to plan ahead to minimize decision making during an emotionally stressful time. For more information, please contact Irene Lustgarten, Executive Director at ilustgarten@comsynrye.org.
Join Author Richard Rubin for Conversation and Book Signing

December 5, 2016 | 7:30 - 9 pm
JCC of Mid-Westchester
999 Wiltot Road, Scarsdale
No admission fee

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 “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.

“Jewish in America: Loving America, Adapting to Reality”

Richard L. Rubin

Join our newly reimagined Religious School Committee now known as the Jewish Engagement Team (JET)!

- be a driving voice in Jewish learning and connection
- explore innovative trends in Jewish learning
- articulate Jewish values we want to transmit to our children
- identify challenges and create avenues for change
- be a think tank, a group of parents who are excited to think outside of the box
- pursue meaningful Jewish experiences for our children and families

Parent input is crucial in shaping Jewish learning that is meaningful and that responds to how we live today. We are so glad that you are a part of this dynamic team!

We will be meeting 6 Saturday mornings from 9:00 - 10:45 am
November 5
December 10
January 7
March 11
April 22
May 6

If you are interested in joining JET, please contact Marnie Mallah, Team Leader at marniem@me.com.

Willow Gardens: Westchester’s Newest Memory Care Residence

Opening in March 2018, Willow Gardens Memory Care will be Westchester County’s only nonprofit assisted living residence devoted exclusively to Alzheimer’s Disease and related dementias. Willow Gardens offers incomparable care and a real home, where adults with memory impairment continue to lead meaningful lives.

www.ahgc.org 914-336-2438

JET (JEWISH ENGAGEMENT TEAM)

You can shape Jewish learning at CSR

Join our newly reimagined Religious School Committee now known as the Jewish Engagement Team (JET)!

The Jewish Engagement Team will:

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- articulate Jewish values we want to transmit to our children
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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 (Ceele 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/esr-funds