

# The Whole Megillah

November & December 2013

Heshvan 28, 5774 - Tevet 28, 5774

## Inside this issue

Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Chanukah 11

Wally Lamb Comes to  
Books & Bagels.....5

Judaism and Recovery:  
A D'var Torah by  
Stu Baker.....6-7

Sol LeWitt's  
Biennial Yarmulke.....9

Remembering  
Howard Kaplan.....10

Religious School Schedule for  
the Academic Year.....12



Chanukiah from synagogue in Zamosc, Poland.



[www.cbsrz.org](http://www.cbsrz.org)

# THANK YOU

to the following donors from 7/16/2013 to 10/1/2013

## IN THIS ISSUE



**Music & More Inc.**  
Neil Gottfried & Marilyn White-Gottfried: in memory of Barbara Margolis  
David Zeleznik & Maxine Klein

**Social Action Fund**  
Sandy & Andrea Seidman: donation for Food for Klez picnic

**Tzedakah Collective**  
Steven Barasz & Shelley Sprague  
Lary Bloom & Suzanne Levine  
Jeff & Beth Brewer  
Ethan Goller & Rona Malakoff  
Neil Gottfried & Marilyn White-Gottfried: in memory of Samuel Schaffer  
Henry & Elizabeth Gottlieb  
Ethan & Tracy Kleinberg  
Debra Landrey  
Michael & Susan Perl  
Deborah Rutty  
Susan Savitt

**Community Garden**  
Anthony & Linda Rigono: in memory of Irene Kemp

**Food/Beverage Fund**  
Michael & Lori Bruskin  
Lynn Coville  
Stephen & Clo Davis  
Janet Scharf Gochberg  
Ethan Goller & Rona Malakoff  
Laura Hesselein  
Harvey Hoberman  
Sandra Kerzner  
Stephen & Maya Liss  
Chris & Beth Mercier  
Michael & Susan Peck  
David & Trudy Ripin  
Michael Roth & Kari Weil  
Deborah Rutty  
Joel & Marcy Saltzman  
David Stein & Christine Dokko  
Corinne Weber  
David Zeleznik & Maxine Klein

**Torah Fund**  
Sigmund Balka  
Kevin Fox: in honor of the birth of Emet Israel Resnikoff  
Kevin Fox: in honor of the birth of Mason Nicholas Resnikoff  
Joel & Elizabeth Pear: in appreciation of the Honor during Rosh Hashanah services  
Patrick Smith & Melinda Alcosser: in honor of the Confirmation class

**Samuels Scholarship Fund**  
David & Trudy Ripin

**Religious School Fund**  
Arnold & Barbara Davis: in honor of Cole Irving Davis  
Harvey Hoberman: in memory of Joan Hoberman  
David & Laura Roman

**Judy Joslow Fund**  
Ray & Liz Archambault: in memory of David and Judy Joslow

**Art Gallery Fund**  
Jerry & Judy Goodman: In honor of the marriage of Paul Nathan Peck to Barbara Ann Boeckeler  
Neil Gottfried & Marilyn White-Gottfried

**Cemetery Fund**  
Myron & Merle Bernstein  
Bernard & Lillian Levine: in memory of the Levine and Zelman family members

**Jo-Ann Price Education Fund**  
Edward & Linda Pinn: in honor of Michael Price's 75th birthday

**Donations**  
Doron & Eve Ber: in memory of Joseph Ber  
Richard & Marilyn Buel: in appreciation of the Holy Scrollers Torah study group  
Richard & Marilyn Buel: in honor of Lary Bloom and his 100 year old piano  
Jeffrey & Karen Burzin: in memory of Sandra Burzin  
James & Hyla Cohen: in memory of Louis Alcon and Sidney LeWitt  
Michael & Pamela Crair: in memory of Natt Crair  
Arnold & Barbara Davis: in memory of Joseph Belpert  
Jeffrey & Barbara Davis: in memory of Milton Davis  
Martin & Elizabeth Drobiarz: in memory of Henry Drobiarz  
Philip & Susan Fine: in honor of Eileen Ilberman receiving the Spirit of Service award  
Nancy Fischbach & Martin Wolman: in memory of Beatrice and Harry Fischbach  
Irving Friedman: in memory of Raymond O. Fielding  
Betty Gilman: in memory of Rose Heller  
Norman Hanenbaum: in memory of Rose Hanenbaum  
Laura Hesselein  
Harvey Hoberman: congratulations to Lon & Melissa Seidman on the birth of Keira Ann  
Harvey Hoberman: congratulations to Sandy & Andrea Seidman on the birth of their granddaughter  
Harvey Hoberman: in memory of Jeanne Hoberman  
Barry & Eileen Ilberman: in appreciation of Rabbi Goldenberg  
Brad & Lori Jubelirer: in memory of James Jubelirer  
Gene & Marilyn Kalet: in memory of Irving Kalet, Sy Reiner, Anna Kandell, Doris Reiner, Rose Kalet, Sara Swing  
Anne Kent-Wald: in memory of Felix Wald  
Lorraine Klappholz: in memory of Lowell Klappholz  
Carol LeWitt: in memory of Dr. Abraham LeWitt  
Juan Carlos Lopez: in memory of Maria Lopez  
Arthur & Marcia Meyers: in honor of Norman Hanenbaum for his dedication to Judaism and Veterans  
Leonard & Ellen Nodelman: in memory of Adam Nodelman  
Joseph Pear: in memory of Jack Pear  
Joseph Pear: in memory of Leah Katz Pear  
Joseph Pear: in memory of Michael Pear  
Michael & Susan Peck: in memory of Adeline Koppelman Charches  
Michael & Susan Peck: in memory of Meyer White  
Michael & Susan Peck: wishing Mazel Tov to Lon Seidman and Melissa Ozols on the birth of their daughter  
Michael & Susan Peck: wishing Mazel Tov to Sandy and Andrea Seidman on the birth of their granddaughter  
Edward & Linda Pinn: in memory of Dr. Abraham Baskin

Linda Polomski: in memory of Carol Ruth Goodman  
Irving Reiner: in memory of Elinor Reiner  
Saul & Hila Rosen: in memory of Marcia Cohen  
Steven & Frani Ross: in memory of Ann Samuels, Barney Levine and Muriel Levine Boothman  
Joel & Marcy Saltzman: in memory of Daniel Weintraub  
Joel & Marcy Saltzman: in memory of Milton Weintraub  
Joel & Marcy Saltzman: in memory of Rose Weintraub  
Susan & Charles Savitt: in memory of Joseph Savitt  
Adele Saykin: in memory of Martin Saykin  
Jerome & Marlene Scharf: in honor of Howard Kaplan's 80th birthday  
Sandy & Andrea Seidman: in memory of Frances Seidman  
Ruth Solomkin: in memory of Joan Hoberman  
Sharon Taubman: in memory of Blossom Glickman  
Corinne Weber: in memory of Beatrice Gottfried  
Christopher George Wich  
Daniel & Jacqueline Wolff: in memory of Morris Wolff  
David Zeleznik & Maxine Klein: in memory of Pearl Klein

**Rabbi Discretionary Fund**  
ANONYMOUS - in honor of Michael Peck and Geri Ficarra  
Samuel Charches: in memory of Adeline K. Charches  
Marilyn White-Gottfried: in memory of Bruce White  
David Shiling & Trina Shipuleski: in appreciation of Rabbi Goldenberg  
Jacqueline Zwilling: in memory of Dr. Richard Zwilling

**A Special Thank You from the Religious Affairs Committee**  
Our Ark was graced by the beautiful new Torah mantles this High Holiday season. The project of researching, finalizing choices and the ultimate purchasing of new Torah mantles took many hands. We would like to thank the following people for their involvement in this endeavor:  
The Minyonaires  
Linda and Tony Rigono  
Kevin Fox  
Infeld family  
Stephen and Clo Davis  
Lynne Zimmerman  
Ed and Linda Pinn  
The Burzin family  
Melinda Alcosser and Pat Smith and family  
The Kleinberg family  
Rita Fink  
Henry Resnikoff and Daphne Nielsen  
Carol LeWitt and Bruce Josephy  
Maia and Kay Chiat  
Lary Bloom and Suzanne Levine  
Peg Palmer and Rick Hornung  
Miriam Gardner-Frum  
Sandy & Andrea Seidman  
Brad & Lori Jubelirer  
George & Norma Glassman, in memory  
Rachel Goldenberg & Jim Talbott  
Laura & David Roman

**From Our Rabbi**  
**3**

**Worship Services and Nov./Dec. Events**  
**4**

**From Our President**  
**5**

**D'var Torah: by Stu Baker**  
**6-7**

**Exhibition of Photographs by Peter Walker**  
**8**

**Sol LeWitt's Biennial Yarmulke**  
**9**

**Remembering Howard Kaplan**  
**10**

**All about Chanukah**  
**11**

**Whole Mishpacha**  
**12-15**

**Photo Gallery**  
**16-17**

**Social Action**  
**18-19**

**Chesed**  
**20**

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**20**

**CBSRZ News**  
**22-23**

**Remembrances and Mi SheBeirach**  
**25**

**November and December Calendars**  
**26-27**

**Rabbi Rachel Goldenberg**  
860-526-8920  
rabbirg@cbsrz.org

**Belinda Brennan**  
Educator & Cantorial Soloist  
860-526-8920  
edcant@cbsrz.org

**Lary Bloom**  
President  
860-526-9401  
president@cbsrz.org

**Miriam Gardner-Frum**  
Vice President  
860-526-2292  
vicepresident@cbsrz.org

**Sandy Seidman**  
Financial Vice President  
860-399-5709  
financialvp@cbsrz.org

**Henry Resnikoff**  
Secretary  
860-767-0547  
henryresnikoff@aol.com

**Kevin B. Fox**  
Treasurer  
860-597-6302  
treasurer@cbsrz.org

**Wendy Bayor**  
Administrator  
860-526-8920  
info@cbsrz.org

**The Whole Megillah**  
Published bi-monthly by Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek

55 East Kings Highway  
PO Box 438  
Chester, CT 06412  
Voice: 860-526-8920  
Fax: 860-526-8918  
www.cbsrz.org

Editor  
Sean Konecky

Editor Emeritus  
Lary Bloom

Photo Editor  
Deborah Rutty

The Whole Mishpacha  
Editor  
Leslie Krumholz

Editorial Assistant  
Wendy Bayor

Design/Production  
Justin Marciano



# From our Rabbi

# Rabbi

By Rabbi Rachel Goldenberg



**B**y now, I imagine most of you have seen the blogs, the memes, the Facebook posts and the articles about this year's once-in-a-lifetime confluence of

Thanksgiving with the first day of Chanukah. Or, as some have been calling it, "Thanksgivukkah."

I'm not going to go into all of the mathematical calculations here (if you're interested, look here: <http://jew-school.com/2013/01/17/30051/thanksgivukkah-faq/>)

Suffice it to say that it is very rare for the first day of Chanukah to overlap with Thanksgiving. The last time it happened was 1899, when Thanksgiving was celebrated on the fifth Thursday of November, which was the fourth day of Chanukah. This was before FDR officially proclaimed Thanksgiving for the fourth Thursday in November every year, to create a longer Christmas shopping season and to stimulate the economy. Though the first *day* of Chanukah won't fall on Thanksgiving again in the near-to-medium future, the first *night* of Chanukah will again fall on Thanksgiving night in the years 2070 and 2165. After 2165, we'll have to wait another 70,000 years or so.

What interests me more than the math is what this all means for us as American Jews. I think one of the reasons there's so much excitement about this confluence this year is that a meld of Thanksgiving and Chanukah does not present us with conflicts of identity or religion as does the confluence of Chanukah with Christmas. As American Jews, we have positive associations with Thanksgiving: it is one of those holidays where we feel included in the national culture and celebration.

In fact, George Washington set a universalistic, inclusive tone in his Thanksgiving proclamation in 1795 when he announced:

*I, George Washington, President of the United States, do recommend to all Religious Societies and Denominations, and to all Persons whomsoever with the United States, to [observe] a day of public thanksgiving and prayer...particularly for the possession of Constitutions of Government which unite and by their union establish liberty with order.*

Washington was criticized for his message by some, including a Massachusetts clergyman named Ebenezer Bradford. In his Thanksgiving sermon, Rev. Bradford preached, "to leave Christ therefore out of the account in so important a matter as a National Thanksgiving must be an unpardonable neglect; for He is our creator, preserver, benefactor and redeemer, and therefore we are bound to do all in His name."

Others defended Washington. David Tappan, a Harvard divinity professor spoke on the same day, saying that the President aimed "to unite in one general thanksgiving all the inhabitants of our favored land, whether Christians, Jews, or Deists; that those who were joint partakers of the national prosperity might all conspire in celebrating its glorious author." (See <http://tmt.urj.net/archives/2socialaction/112205.htm>)

Over the centuries, Jews around the world have found ways to integrate aspects of the surrounding culture into Jewish religious culture. For instance, our braided Challah bread likely comes from the twisted white breads that were found through central Europe and the Slavic countries in which Ashkenazic Jews lived.

This year, as Chanukah and Thanksgiving overlap, we can dip our latkes in cranberry sauce and brine our turkeys in Manischewitz (see <http://www.buzzfeed.com/christinebyrne/thanksgivukkah> for more Thanksgivukkah recipes), all the while giving thanks for the lights of freedom and hope that this country has given our Jewish People.



## NOVEMBER EVENTS

## DECEMBER EVENTS

### November Worship Services

Friday, November 1, 5:45 PM, Tot Shabbat; 6:15 PM, Dairy Potluck Dinner; 7:00 PM First Friday Erev Shabbat Service

Wednesday, November 6, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan

Friday, November 8, 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 9, 10:30 AM, Second Saturday Shabbat Service and Kiddush Lunch

Wednesday, November 13, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan

Friday, November 15, 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Wednesday, November 20, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan;

Friday, November 22, 7:30 PM, Erev Shabbat Service

Sunday, November 24, 4:00 PM, Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at the United Church of Chester.

Wednesday, November 27, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan;

Friday, November 29, 7:30 PM, Chanukah Service and Celebration



### December Worship Services

Wednesday, December 4, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan;

Friday, December 6, 5:45 PM, Tot Shabbat; 6:15 PM, Dairy Potluck Dinner; 7:00 PM, First Friday Shabbat Service

Wednesday, December 11, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan;

Friday, December 13, 5:45 PM, Erev Shabbat Service, Followed by Dinners in Congregants' Homes

Saturday, December 14, Second Saturday Shabbat Service and Kiddush Lunch

Wednesday December 18, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan;

Friday, December 20, 5:45 PM, Erev Shabbat Service

Wednesday December 25, 7:45 AM, Morning Minyan

Friday, December 27, 5:45 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday December 28, 10:30 AM, Shabbat Service and Bat Mitzvah of Casey Elkin

Sunday, November 3, 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:15–10:30 AM, Breakfast with the Rabbi, Grade K/1; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 9:30 AM, Religious School; 11:00 AM, Program on Ashkelon Dig with Elliot Schwam; 11:30 AM–1:00 PM, Confirmation

Wednesday, November 6, 8:45 AM, Religious Affairs; 1:00 PM, Mah Jongg Lessons; 4:15 Religious School

Saturday, November 9, 9:30 AM, Religious School (*in lieu of Sunday November 10*)

Sunday, November 10, 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 5:00–9:00 PM, Jewish War Veterans Remembrance of Kristallnacht

Monday, November 11 (*office closed for Veteran's Day*)

Tuesday, November 12, 3:00 PM, Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantry Board Meeting; 7:00–8:30 PM, Adult Bat Mitzvah Workshop

Wednesday, November 13, 1:00 PM, Mah Jongg Lessons; 4:15 PM, Religious School

Thursday, November 14, 12:00–1:30 PM, Lunch & Learn: Jewish Responses to Ethical Questions; 7:00 PM, Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, November 16, 8:30 AM–3:30 PM Habitat for Humanity House in Middleton

Sunday, November 17, 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 9:30 AM, Religious School; 2:00–4:00 PM, Listening Campaign Feedback; 4:30 PM, Beat the Winter Blues Film Club

Wednesday, November 20, 1:00 PM, Mah Jongg Lessons; 4:15, Religious School

Thursday, November 21, 5:30 PM Social Action

Sunday, November 24, 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 9:30 AM, Religious School; 9:30 AM, Parent Hanukkah Program; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, Confirmation; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, Geshet; 12:00 PM, Latke Making and Freezing

Tuesday, November 26, 7:00–8:30 PM, Adult Bat Mitzvah Workshop

Wednesday, November 27, 1:00 PM, Mah Jongg Lessons; First Night of Chanukah (*No Religious School*)

Thursday, November 28, First Day of Chanukah–Thanksgiving Day (*Office Closed*);

Friday, November 29 (*Office Closed*)

Sunday, December 1, (*No Religious School*), 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 12:00 PM, Latke Making and Freezing; 4:00 PM, B'not Mitzvah Benefit Concert

Wednesday, December 4, 8:45 AM, Religious Affairs; 1:00 PM, Mah Jongg Lessons; 4:15 PM, Religious School

Thursday, December 5, Last Day of Chanukah; 7:00 PM, Executive Committee

Sunday, December 8, 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:15–10:30 AM, Breakfast with the Rabbi, Grade 2/3; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 9:30 AM, Religious School; 11:00 AM, Books & Bagels: Wally Lamb, We Are Water; 11:30 AM–1:00 PM, Confirmation

Tuesday, December 10, 3:00 PM, Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantry Board Meeting; 7:00–8:30 PM, Adult Bat Mitzvah Workshop

Wednesday, December 11, *URJ Biennial San Diego*; 1:00 PM, Mah Jongg Lessons; 4:15 PM, Religious School

Thursday, December 12, *URJ Biennial San Diego*; 12:00 PM–1:30 PM Lunch & Learn: Jewish Responses to Ethical Questions

Friday, December 13, *URJ Biennial San Diego*

Saturday December 14, *URJ Biennial San Diego*

Sunday, December 15, *URJ Biennial San Diego*; 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 9:30 AM, Religious School; 9:30 AM, –11:00, ComCom in Library; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, Confirmation; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, Geshet

Monday, December 16, 12:30–6:00 PM, Red Cross Bood Drive

Wednesday, December 18, 1:00 PM, Mah Jongg Lessons; 4:15 PM, Religious School; 7:00 PM, Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, December 19, 7:00–8:30 PM, Adult Bat Mitzvah Rehearsal

Sunday, December 22, (*No Religious School*) 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew; 4:00 PM, Beat the Winter Blues Film Club; 4:00–6:00 PM, Chester Soup Kitchen

Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day (*Office Closed*)

Thursday, December 26, 7:00 PM, Executive Committee

Sunday, December 29, (*No Religious School*) 8:30–9:30 AM, Advanced Hebrew; 9:30–10:30 AM, Beginner Hebrew

### UPCOMING EVENTS 2014

Sunday, January 12, 11:00 AM, Tu B'Shevat Seder and Dairy Lunch  
Friday, January 17, 7:30 PM, Erev Shabbat Service in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Holy Scrollers Torah Study

every Shabbat  
9:00 – 10:30 AM

Don't Be Afraid of CBSRZ's Social Media: facebook, Blogs, and Twitter

Just the words alone can cause tremors for some but, like it or not, they are here to stay. CBSRZ is using one or more of these sites and invites members to come along, it's really not hard, and explore the joys of cyberspace.

Begin by clicking on [www.cbsrz.org](http://www.cbsrz.org) to bring up the Synagogue's site and then click away at any of the colorful sites that you want to access. Click on the Facebook icon at the bottom of the page and you will be directed to the CBSRZ Facebook page and a treasure trove of information beginning with Ellen Nodelman's blog about what it is like to be an adult B'nai Mitzvah. Click on the Like icon so you can be counted as a Friend of CBSRZ and thus receive postings as quickly as they are sent.

Charles Savitt has launched a Twitter site. Be sure to follow us on Twitter @CBSRZ



## From our President

### Why Wally Lamb is Coming to CBSRZ

By Lary Bloom

This year's convention of publishers and agents featured a banner that stretched across the top of the Jacob Javits Center with the words "Wally Lamb" in huge letters. Wally's publisher was certain his newest novel, *We Are Water*, would climb the best-seller list, just as others had.

This would have seemed farfetched back in 1984. He was then a teacher of English at Norwich Free Academy with the dream of being a fiction writer. He summoned the courage to send off his first short story, "Keep in a Cool, Dry Place," to *Northeast*, the Sunday magazine of the *Hartford Courant*.

I was the magazine's editor at the time. I remember reading his piece with a sense of awe and delight even though it did not have a happy subject. It was written in the voice of a teenage girl who, among other impediments, had an unhealthy self-image. When I asked my associate editor to read it she came back into my office with a smile on her face, and said, "I like it but we shouldn't publish it."

"Why not?" I asked, surprised.

"Because it's written in a female voice by a man. It's not authentic. Men don't understand how a woman thinks."

She was a brilliant editor, and I wondered for a time if she was right. But in the end I had to tell her that my decision was to purchase the short story and run it as soon as possible.

In many of Wally's recent speeches he refers to the phone call that I made to him in 1984, when I told him we were buying his story, as the best call he ever received even better than those many

years later from Oprah Winfrey. (After two of his books were chosen for her TV show's book club).

The "inauthentic" character that Wally wrote about in his first piece became Delores Price in *She's Come Undone*, a character that has become one of the iconic figures in American literature.

And aside from his blockbuster novels, Wally has had a great impact on society in other ways.

For thirteen years he has taught writing at York Correction Facility in East Lyme, giving the female prisoners there not only useful instruction but an opportunity to tell their stories. He even convinced his publisher, HarperCollins, to publish a book of their memoirs titled, *Couldn't Keep it to Myself*.

Of course, as we very well know, no good deed (even one by a literary angel) goes unpunished. After the news spread that each of the prisoners whose work appeared in the collection would receive a royalty of \$6,000, the Department of Correction sent bills to them for their room and board over the years.

One of the inmates, having been imprisoned for 18 years, received a tab for nearly a million dollars. After a great public clamor, the DOC policy was dropped. And a second book of memoirs was published in the years afterward.

Not only that but over a 20-year period he helped David Fitzpatrick, our October Books & Bagels author, write a memoir about his epic struggle with mental illness just because he wanted to see David succeed.

Recently Wally has had a very close connection with several people at CBSRZ.

Long ago, he and my wife Suzanne were fellow students in Vermont College's MFA program. And Wally, along with Suzanne, Clo Davis, and

I have established a writing forum in Praiano, Italy, at Carol LeWitt's ancestral home, Casa L Orto. ([www.praianowriters.com](http://www.praianowriters.com)).

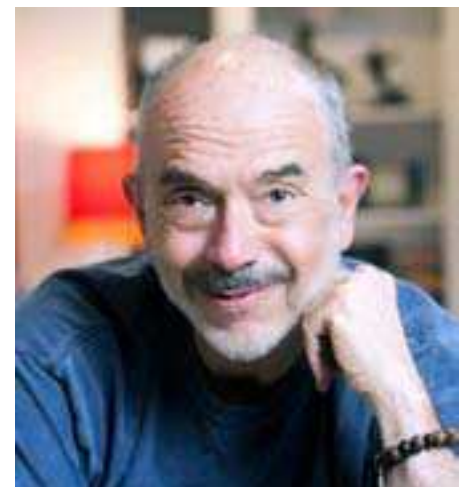
This connection led to Clo inviting Wally to CBSRZ's Books & Bagels program. (Clo is chair of the Program Committee). And so he will be here on Sunday, December 8, at 11 a.m. (Note, this is a little later than most B&B readings.) The event is free and included in the "price" are coffee and, of course, bagels. (The Cream Cheese Subcommittee also provides orange juice.)

You'll see that Wally is a gentle and generous soul unspoiled by success. And you'll be as awed as I was three decades ago when you hear him read from *We Are Water*, which features characters affected by the great flood in Norwich a half century ago.

Early reviews have been glowing, including this starred review from Library Journal that begins with a quote from the book: "We are fluid and flexible when we have to be. But strong and destructive, too." That's evident in this emotionally involving new novel from the author of *She's Come Undone*...Clear and sweetly flowing; highly recommended."

With all of his success he has also written *This Much I Know Is True*, *The Hour I First Believed* and other books he remains humble and easy to talk with.

Sometimes, if not very often, nice guys finish first.



Wally Lamb

Elena Seibert



# D'VAR TORAH

By Stuart Baker, LADC

**O**n the 24th of Elul congregant Stuart Baker, LADC, offered the following D'var Torah on the theme of Judaism and Recovery. Stuart is a licensed substance abuse counselor.

Good evening, Rabbi, Belinda, fellow congregants...

Thank you for asking me to speak tonight....

I'll begin with a quote from Isaiah 62:4 from this week's Haf Torah portion:

*Nevermore shall you be called  
"Forsaken,"*

*Nor shall your land be called  
"Desolate."*

Rejoicing and an expression of gratitude towards G-d for victory over our enemies as well as a recognition of the costs of trampling our foes characterize this weeks reading.

In biblical times, as in our own, enemies are very real. The thought that someone or something "out there" can seek our destruction can be frightening, even paralyzing. All one needs to do is read the headlines to see stories of tragedy from natural events, violence fueled by hatred, greed, or intolerance. In our everyday lives the enemy can be very private, secret, and lethal.

Let me tell you a story of one person's struggle with his enemies.

David first came to us as a drunk doomed to failure. He had been through countless detoxification facilities and treatment programs. He would sober up briefly, for about two or three weeks, then relapse with crack cocaine and alcohol. He was on intimate terms with his drug dealers. Most



Stuart Baker

likely he was one of their best and most reliable customers.

David's fall from grace had been a journey.

I guess what drew my attention to him to me initially was that we shared a passion for photography. He had seen some of my photographs in my office, and we began to talk about them. He told me that at one point of his life, he had also worked in the human services field as a case manager. Here was a kindred spirit. He was articulate and, when he was sober, a soft spoken, kind soul. His wife of more than two decades had stood by him through good times and bad. The good times had been great: years of sobriety, steady employment, happy memories with a woman he adored. But something was there always lurking in the background. There was this low level sadness in his life that would never go away.

David met with one of our best psychiatrists. He prescribed some medications, but to no avail. Our team decision was to work with him on engaging in 12-step programs and to continue working with groups, individual, and couples counseling. Meanwhile, David continued his pattern of brief sobriety, detoxification, and return to treatment. He found a very strong sponsor in AA, someone who had met him in our program and who had several years of sobriety under his belt. This is a person who works a very spiritual program and has a deep

understanding of the struggle of getting sober.

Following his last relapse, after he threatened the woman he loved, his sponsor helped him one last detoxification and then enter a long-term treatment program through the Salvation Army.

David returned to us with six months of sobriety. He was ready now to begin doing battle with his demons. He got honest about his childhood. Prior to this he had never been willing to talk about his childhood. He shared with me the horror that had been his life when he was young. At age of five he had been taken away from his mother, abducted by his father. His witnessed his father come home drunk regularly and beat his stepmother. David was told how worthless he was, threatened and beaten. Then his father suddenly died, and David was faced with making his way in the world.

David's enemies were inside of him. They were the echoes of his past haunting him. When he was on the verge of success—getting a new job, completing a treatment episode, finishing a training program—he relapsed: drank, smoked crack cocaine, and got arrested.

He was now attending 12-step meetings and his wife's church. He agreed, reluctantly, to attend our Men's Trauma and Recovery group. Meeting weekly with other men who had been through awful experiences, David began to speak about the unspeakable. He told his story to others in small pieces and received attention, compassion, and understanding from his brothers. At the same time in the rooms of Alcoholic's Anonymous and in his church he began to develop relationships with people who genuinely cared for him. He grew to be good friends with his pastor and was being considered for a position as an elder in the church.

But the enemy never sleeps.

About 18 months ago, David began to experience excruciating gut pain. Multiple trips to the emergency department were futile. The pain was apparently

real, but no cause was found. Finally, a gift from G-d, a clever doctor decided to run one more test and there it was... pancreatic cancer.

In the past David would have used this as an excuse. "See, my father was right, I am messed up!" He would be drunk and high on cocaine. This time was different. David chose to stand his ground and fight. He underwent chemotherapy, attended groups for support, and continued his close ties with his church.

He and I have had long conversations about staying focused on today... The slogan from AA about "one day at a time" took on a new and deeper meaning. Every day had become precious to David. Every moment with his wife a blessing.

In Isaiah, we are told that G-d makes a promise to us:

*The Lord has sworn by his right hand, by his mighty arm:*

*Nevermore will I give your new grain*

*To your enemies for food,*

*Nor shall foreigners drink the new wine*

*For which you have labored.*

*But those who harvest it shall eat it*

*And give praise to the Lord;*

*And those who gather it shall drink it*

*In my sacred courts.*

(Isaiah 62: 8-9)

David's journey, our journey, is from feeling and believing that we are "hopeless"—that no matter what, nothing can help us triumph over our "enemies"—to feeling a sense of hope, a belief that somehow we can be victorious. We are not alone in the struggle.

But, how do we do this?

I only wish that I could flip a switch, get the Hope APP on my iPhone, push the right button or tab, and miracle of miracles, I have Hope!

But we know from our life experiences, this just is not the case. To move

from anger, despair and hopelessness to serenity, gratitude, and hope requires us to travel through the process of acceptance and surrender.

The members of Alcoholics Anonymous make a suggestion of the steps to this journey:

"We admitted that we were powerless... and our lives had become unmanageable." What are we powerless over? In a word...our enemies... whatever that may be... addiction, disease, natural disasters, the actions of others.

"We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity." Taking a leap of faith, that someone or something outside of me...something bigger, greater and grander than I can get rid of this *misbugas* in my life.

And, "We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of G-d, as we understood him." Here's the crunch. Its not enough to just *believe*. We have to trust that G-d will help, that we will be held, and cared for.

Father Joseph Martin ran a treatment center outside of Baltimore. As a young counselor I had the privilege of hearing him speak while I was in Richmond, Virginia. He described the first three steps of the Twelve Steps of AA this way:

Step One ... "I can't handle it."

Step Two... "I believe someone or something can help."

Step Three... "I'm going to *let* G-d help."

So, how do I move from believing in G-d to letting G-d into my life?

David teaches me that this involves letting other people care about me. More importantly, I believe that they do care. I am not alone in the struggle. The other half is that I show that I care about others. They are not alone in their struggle. My hope for recovery comes from being with and comes through other people. Each day is precious. Each day holds promise, renewed.

I explain HOPE to clients as Having Opportunities Presented Everyday...

Our days are a stream of choices and opportunities. Have I done the "right thing?" What is the right thing? What is the loving and caring thing to do or say? If I have genuinely turned my will and life over to the CARE of G-d – what does that look like? How do I let others in? How do I show care to others so they know that they are not alone?

My will is "I want what I want...and I want it NOW!" This includes all sorts of *stuff* ... things like toys, money, who my relationships are with, how can I move forward in my career or my life. It's all about me: *Ego*, satisfying myself, my wants and needs.

This is a daily struggle; so I make a conscious decision—a prayer—"G-d's will not my will." Then the events in my life will play out accordingly. I look around and remind myself of what I am grateful for: a loving wife, family, and friends, ample food and shelter. For David it is time with his wife and having loving friends. Each of us needs to find the answer: to take an inventory of our lives daily and express gratitude.

Let me quote Father Martin again: "We have to put feet on our prayers." The act of turning our will and our life over to Care involves action, not just prayer. This is how we build Hope: by demonstrating care for ourselves, accepting from and giving care to others.

Isaiah directs us:

*I will recount the kind acts of the Lord,*

*The praises of the Lord –*

*For all that the Lord has wrought for us,*

*The vast bounty to the House of Israel*

*That he bestowed upon them*

*According to His mercy and His great kindness.*

If we do the *work*, then the promise is

*Nevermore shall you be called "Forsaken,"*

*Nor shall your land be called "Desolate."*

**Thank you.**

# The Photography of Peter Walker:

## Exhibition on Main Street

by Linda Pinn

“In the world of the visual arts, Peter Walker's photographs celebrate perfection of image, balance, and form. His eye is flawless. In my long life of observing such things, with the exception of George Balanchine, I have known no other artist with his gift.” So writes David Hays in his appraisal of our next Main Street Gallery artist.

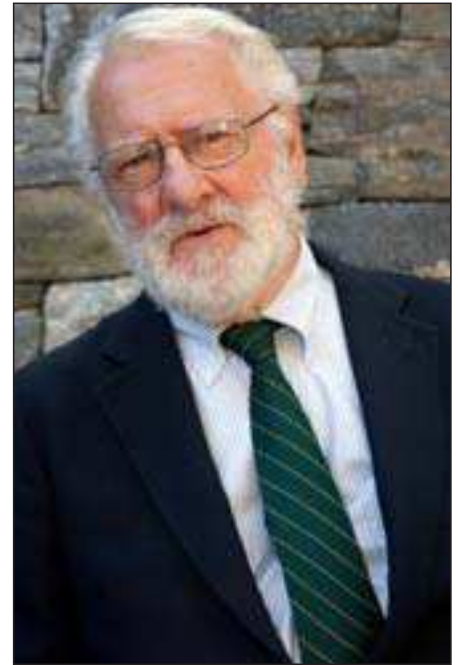
Peter comes across as a man larger than life. His smile is constant and fills his whole being with explosive delight. His sense of humor is clever, delightful, and

often at his own expense; his laughter joyous and frequent; and his welcome warm and wholehearted.

Peter Walker is an actor, singer, lyricist, and photographer. He has played the stages of the world from Asia to Europe and in every major city in North America. While under contract to Warner Brothers, he worked for ten years in Hollywood doing film, theater, and TV (everything from “The Twilight Zone” to “Perry Mason” and “Colombo” to Alfred Hitchcock Presents”). Ironically, one of his best known roles was Madison Avenue's Marlboro Man.” He worked for twenty-five years doing Broadway and Off Broadway plays and musicals, including two national tours, *Hello Dolly* and *Into The Woods*.

Peter enjoyed a forty year collaboration of writing musicals with fellow actor and composer, Max Showalter. *Harrigan N' Hart*, for which Walker wrote the lyrics, opened Goodspeed at Chester's Norma Terris Theater in East Haddam. In his last production in New York, Walker co-starred with the beloved Imogene Coca in *My Old Friends* for which he received a Drama Desk Nomination as Outstanding Actor in a Musical.

While visiting with Showalter in Chester, Peter was hiking with Showalter's Boston Terrier, Bessie, when he stumbled upon a small house for sale on Old Depot Road. Responding to what he swears was a cry from the house, “If you don't buy me you'll be sorry as hell!” Walker purchased the home and moved in with his trusted friend and foxhole-buddy on the bat-



Caryn B. Davis

Peter Walker

tlefields of life, Jess Maghan.

Still performing occasionally at the Goodspeed, Eugene O'Neil Theater Center, and Ivoryton Playhouse, Peter spends his time reconfiguring his sculptures (yes he does that too), traveling, and photographing exotic locales such as Nepal, India, the Republic of Georgia, Singapore and Africa. The Masai are so beautiful in their generosity of spirit, and their Serengeti has got to be the most incredible God-made place on the planet. The Tanzanians believe it is the original Garden of Eden...and they just may be right,” Walker reflects.

Walker lives his life with grace, zest and fervor,” writes Jess, a retired university professor. In the end he believes it all boils down to this: For every privilege there's a responsibility...Never let education get in the way of learning...Avoid people who have lost their capacity for enthusiasm. That is quintessential Peter Walker, and how he continues to live his life to the fullest,” concludes Jess.

Peter Walker's photography exhibit will be on view in the CBSRZ Main Street Gallery from mid-November, 2013 through January, 2014 and is open to the public Monday–Friday, 10AM–3PM (no charge). Although the photographs are not for sale, Peter says that he will consider requests.



Peter Walker, *Third Avenue Figure*

Robert VanKeirsbilck



# Covering the Jewish People

## *One Keppie at a Time*

By Bruce Josephy

As a new member of the Union for Reform Judaism Board, I had an idea: make the Sol LeWitt yarmulke the official yarmulke for the upcoming URJ Biennial, December 11–15, in San Diego.

The URJ Biennial is described as bringing together “5,000 Jewish lay leaders and professionals, youth, congregants, and clergy to learn, pray, share ideas, and make decisions about the future of Jewish life.”

What better target market for LeWitt yarmulke sales?

Carol LeWitt loved the idea, as did Michael Price, who has served on the URJ Board for a number of years and is chair of the URJ Development Committee.

The yarmulke will have special imprinting for the Biennial and will be offered to attendees for pre-order and onsite during the Biennial.

The LeWitt yarmulke has covered over 1,100 heads so far. And that’s just the beginning.

With 13 million Jews in the world, that leaves another 12,998,900 keppies for the LeWitt yarmulke still to cover. It’s a revenue stream for CBSRZ that could last another 5774 years.



Photo courtesy of URJ

Rabbi Rick Jacobs, URJ President holding the biennial kippah designed by Sol LeWitt.

## *Safe Futures Benefit Concert*



This late afternoon concert features Save the Train, a well-known group who has entertained the Shoreline for over 40 years with their renditions of folk music, Irish tunes, and zany ballads. They clearly enjoy their music and you will too! The band features Norm Ruddy (husband of Deb) on twelve-string guitar, penny whistle, and minstrel bones, Dave Tlezzi on bass, Roger Goodnow on guitar, banjo, and mandolin, and their newest member, Ted Phillips, on guitar, banjo, and mandolin. Their lively and energetic performances entertain adults and children alike.

This concert is sponsored by the eight CBSRZ women (Pamela Crair, Sandee Gelven, Sandy Herzog, Polly Kipp, Ellen Nodelman, Linda Rigono, Deborah Ruddy, and Johanna Schaefer) who are preparing for their group B’not Mitzvah this coming January. As their Mitzvah Project, the proceeds from the concert will be donated to Safe Futures, a New London-based organization which is dedicated to helping women and families who are affected by domestic violence. Proceeds from the concert will benefit their Violence is Preventable Education Programs.

The benefit will be held at the synagogue on December 1. Tickets are \$15.00, sold at the door; children ages 12 years old and younger are free of charge. Refreshments will be served. Call Wendy to reserve your advance tickets at 860-526-8920.

# Remembering Howard Kaplan

**Editor's Note:** Howard Kaplan, a member of our congregation since 1972, died on September 28. If you did not know him personally, you certainly know what his challah tastes like. He made it for us countless times. And he supported the congregation in many other ways. The founder of Howard's Bread drew hundreds of mourners to his funeral service. What follows is the eulogy delivered by Lary Bloom.

Fifteen years ago, on a congregational trip to Israel, Howard Kaplan, Si Taubman, and I spent a lot of time together. There were nights when we were on our own for dinner. There, in the hot town of Jerusalem, the three amigos. This circumstance set up one of the most intense challenges in tourism history. Si, who considered any food that is green to be an alien substance, was on a perpetual hunt for cholent, the traditional meat preparation that cooks for about four months and tastes like it. Howard, on the other hand, believed that every day presents an opportunity for culinary adventure and discovery. It was my job to mediate the meal. As the three of us explored the streets of the old city looking for a place to eat that would accommodate both tastes I ran ahead to check menus in the windows. It was a fool's errand of course. Howard tried his best to teach Si there is such a thing in this world as wonderful food, but, alas, these efforts met defeat.

Not so when Howard was entirely in charge. And he was in charge in the days he was host at his home to the Chester bocce club. We met every other Tuesday night, and Howard often prepared delicacies to go along with the main point of the night: the case of Heineken that we had to consume. In all the years we did this, one night stands out, a night that showed Howard's generous heart.

It was in 1995, and Special Olympics World Games were being held in New Haven. Howard invited the bocce team of the island of Antigua to join our Tuesday night crowd. These young people were instantly huggable. They



Howard Kaplan

were so grateful to be there, and to meet real Americans, if Chesterites can be called real Americans, and to be a part of it. They were not great bocce players, and that was fortunate for Howard, who, even when he was playing special Olympic athletes who could hardly walk, wanted to win. He did win that night. But that night we all won.

Later that summer, the island of Antigua was devastated by a Hurricane. There was great property destruction and loss of life. Our new bocce friends survived it, but they needed help. Howard helped organize a fundraising effort that helped them recover. Perhaps then, in the greater scheme of worldly and theological things, his invitation for a game of bocce had been no accident.

It is likely no accident that Howard died at the very moment our Torah study group, the Holy Scrollers, was

discussing the creation of the earth. One of the Torah commentaries in our book notes that God was happy with the results, even the idea of the inevitability of death. Knowing our days are numbered invests our deeds and choices with greater significance. Although the death of someone we love is searingly painful, we can recognize that a world in which people die and new souls are born offers the promise of renewal and improvement more than a world in which the original people live forever.

Even so, Howard left an admirable legacy. I say this not only as his friend but as a fellow member of his synagogue. What he gave to this place in time, effort, resources, and love will be hard to replicate. We gratefully accept and cherish what Howard Kaplan gave us: a lot more than bread alone, delicious though it was.



# Some Spell it Chanukah, Some Spell it Hanukkah

## Ten interesting facts about Chanukah that you may not have known:

1. Chanukah is not the right time to start a diet! In Israel, about 17.5 million oil donuts (sufganiyot) are eaten during this holiday!
2. People have spent a lot of time on the fact that Chanukah and Thanksgiving overlap this year. Just google it and see how many sites there are that deal with it. Amazing!
3. The word Chanukah means dedication. That's what it takes to launch a war against a superpower. Remember, the Maccabees were just a small tribe of Yeshiva bochers.
4. Spinning the dreidel was originally done by students who were studying Torah. When the Greek soldiers would raid a home, the students would whip out the dreidel and start to play.
5. Each menorah burns through 44 candles in total over the 8 nights of Chanukah. That's a lot of light!
6. The candles used for lighting the Chanukah candelabrum are supposed to burn for at least half an hour after the stars come out.
7. The principle event of the holiday, the battle between the Maccabees and the Greeks, is post-Biblical. The Chanukah story is not written about in the Torah. It happened hundreds of years after the Torah is believed to have been given to the Jewish people, on Mount Sinai.
8. It is a misnomer to call the nine-branched candelabrum used on

Chanukah a menorah. The correct name is chanukiah. The menorah has only seven branches.

9. Chanukah begins four days before the new moon, which is the darkest night of the month of Kislev. The winter solstice, the longest and darkest day of the year, occurs in Kislev. Like the celebrations of many other faiths, the Jewish holiday of Chanukah brings light in the darkest time of the year.
10. Ingredients you can use to fill your sufganiyot, other than jelly: marshmallow crème, dulce de leche, chai sufganiyot with orange pumpkin buttercream, apple cider sufganiyot with salted caramel, PB&J, peaches and cream.

### THE NOVEMBER DILEMMA...WHAT TO DO WITH THAT LEFT OVER PIE?

Bring it to CBSRZ on Friday, 11/29, yes...the day after Thanksgiving...to celebrate Chanukah! Can you imagine...tables laden with cherry pie, pumpkin pie, apple pie, laktes, and sufganiyot (donuts or fried dough with sugar and honey). Thank goodness for stretch pants! Of course, we will have services first, so join us at 7:30 for Shabbat and Chanukah service as Rabbi Goldenberg, Belinda and Meg Gister on the piano lead us in the singing of our favorite traditional songs.

Don't forget to bring your chanukiah (see #8 in Chanukah facts), your left over pie, freshly made laktes, or other desserts. CBSRZ will supply the apple sauce and sour cream. We will also make sufganiyot to be enjoyed by all!

### Other Chanukah Happenings.....

- November 24th, 9:30 am. Rabbi will hold a program for parents entitled, "Inspiring Ways to Celebrate Chanukah". The discussion will include the many ways to celebrate this holiday and the relevant values that can be incorporated into old and new family traditions.
- November 24th, 11:00 am – noon. Religious School celebration of Chanukah! Games, crafts, oily food!
- Latke University – This year's course will include the art of making latkes ahead of time and freezing them. Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, our main chefs will not be available on Nov. 29th. But don't fear; the latkes will still be made! Date and time to be announced in the weekly e-mails.

We hope that you and your family are able to join us as we celebrate Chanukah/Hanukah/Hanukkah at CBSRZ on Friday evening, November 29th. However you spell it!



Colorful dreidls



# The Whole

## Religious School & Family Activities

### Family and Religious School Calendar

#### November

3	Sunday Session Breakfast with the Rabbi (Grades K/1) Confirmation
6	Wednesday Session
9	2nd Saturday Shabbat Service and Kiddush Luncheon
10	No School: Classes come on the 9th
13	Wednesday Session
17	Sunday Session Community Gathering (led by Grades 2/3)
20	Wednesday Session
24	Sunday Session Parent Chanukah Program Gesher & Confirmation

#### December

1	No School: Thanksgiving
4	Wednesday Session
8	Sunday Session Breakfast with the Rabbi (Grades 2-3) Confirmation
11	Wednesday Session
15	Sunday Session Gesher & Confirmation
18	Wednesday Session
22	No School: Holiday Break
25	No School: Holiday Break
29	No School: Holiday Break

### Happy Birthday! Yom huledet sameach!

#### November 2013

1st	Alex Infeld
15th	Sarah Conley
21st	Morgan Corpuel
24th	Erin Brennan

#### December 2013

7th	Rachel Cohen
13th	Jeremy Evans
14th	Samuel Applegate
18th	Annika Liss
19th	Matthew Cohen
28th	Casey Elkin

### Chanukah at CBSRZ Religious School: All are Welcome

On Sunday, November 24 the Religious School will hold its Chanukah Celebration. At 9:30, Rabbi G. will lead a program for Parents (open to all congregants) on the topic of "Inspiring Ways to Celebrate Chanukah." Discussion will include the many ways to celebrate this holiday and the relevant values that can be incorporated into old and new family traditions.

Following the Program, at 11:00, all will gather together to enjoy latkes, bimeulos, Chanukah arts and crafts, and dreidl games until noon.

### Observations on Recent Changes to Religious School Calendar

Editor's Note: Last Spring the CBSRZ Education committee made some changes to the 2013-2014 School calendar, based on parent feedback, to allow more family participation. Family education

programs were held during the holidays in lieu of certain religious school days. The following are two parents' perspectives on this new experiment:

#### From Beth Mercier:

My family enjoyed the recent Sukkot and Simchat Torah religious school programs. The school year is back in swing and with September being so busy, the mid-week celebrations gave us a chance to enjoy the fun Jewish holidays. Our boys, Joe and Ben, attended the synagogue's religious education program. Joe didn't mind substituting the festivities for his regular 4th grade Wednesday class. I asked the boys to tell me their three most favorite things about Sukkot, and they said "the food, the food and the food!" They were all smiles: eating outside, proudly showing off their Sukkah decorations, and running around the playground with their friends. As for Simchat Torah, I asked the boys again, "what did you enjoy most?" "The food, the food and the food!" But the marching around with the flags and Torahs inside and outside the Temple and the Klezmer band weren't



First day of Religious School

Dass Sinnappen

# Mishpacha

Compiled by Leslie Krumholz

far behind. All in all, the holidays were a fun experience, and we have to say that CBSRZ has some terrific cooks!!!

## From Christine Dokko:

As a family from Guilford, we were relieved to learn that there were no Wednesday religious school classes for our Kitah Dalet son Noah in the busy, busy month of September. Instead, twice-a-week students were asked to come to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services early in September, and Sukkot and Simchat Torah services later in the month. We attended all those services last year, when our kids only had Sunday classes, but this year, it would have been pretty hard to get to them on top of Wednesdays.



Evan Stein, son of Christine Dokko and David Stein celebrated his seventh birthday party recently, and instead of presents, he asked his friends to make contributions to the Guilford Food Bank.

Sukkot was on a Friday night, and we were lucky to have David's mother, Andrea Stein, with us. It was the usual scramble to leave the house with the kids, and by the time we arrived, the buffet was covered with dishes and the sukkah filled with revelers. (About the sukkah: it was amazing. Andrea took a picture for her synagogue.) Our Kitah Bet son, Evan eagerly led us into the sukkah to show us the gourd bird he made in religious school, while Noah ran off to the playground to join the other kids. At the service, the congregation welcomed a bima-ful of new members. Other than having to leave before eating Andrea's lemon cake, it was a good night.

Simchat Torah, falling on a Wednesday night, was a little harder to get to, but also worth the trip. We sang and danced with the Torahs, inside and outside. We witnessed the consecration of the children new to the religious school. We carefully unrolled a Torah and encircled the congregation's children. Kitah Hey read the beginning of Genesis. The kids followed Rabbi Goldenberg like a flock of ducklings as she led them on a quick trip around the Torah.

Today, we asked our kids what they thought of Sukkot and Simchat Torah. Noah said he liked them because they were happy holidays. Evan said he liked the singing and being able to sit down during services. Even though September brought a lot of trips to temple (eleven, but who's counting), the kids didn't really complain, and when we got there, all of us felt glad that we made the effort. In a way, the intensity of the experience was a good jump start to the year. After a summer of being away, we got reacquainted with other members very quickly. And we felt at home at temple again.

Lives are busy. No one has time to do everything they want, not even children, maybe especially not children. We were glad to experience the holidays as a family

at temple, and we think it was enriching to our children to see they were part of a larger community made up of all ages. Missing the Wednesday classes was a trade-off, but we're thankful for it.

## Bat Mitzvah of Casey Elkin

Date: Saturday, December 28  
Torah Portion: Va-eira

### Please tell the congregation a little about yourself.

I am in the 8th grade. I like to paint, dance (my favorite is modern and contemporary dance) and do gymnastics. I also like to play lacrosse. My favorite subjects are reading and writing, but I like science a lot and math (but it is pretty difficult). I am the last student in my Olim class to become a bat mitzvah. My 13th birthday is Dec 28!



Casey Elkin

**What excites you the most about your bat mitzvah?**

I am eager to join the rest of my class who have all become bar and bat mitzvah—so I can be part of the group.

**What does becoming a bat mitzvah mean to you?**

It means becoming a Jewish woman. You feel fulfilled—you are now an official part of being a Jew.

**Can you share a little of your D’var Torah with the congregation?**

Since my Bat Mitzvah is not for three more months, we have not started learning its interpretation yet.

**Have you done a mitzvah project?**

We haven’t done it yet but we have a plan. My mom and I are going to collect sanitary items, like soaps, shampoos and sanitizers and give them to homeless shelters. I will probably go door to door in my neighborhood after handing out flyers.

**Any advice for kids who haven’t begun preparing yet?**

Since everyone in my class doesn’t need my advice, I would tell the class that is in Olim now to definitely study and don’t be too nervous because once you’ve learned it, it is not very difficult. It is an exciting process to be in—it’s great.

**Some Very Special Thank-you's from CBSRZ Jewish Summer Campers:**

**Dear Jo-Ann and Congregants,**

Thank you for the money that I got so I could go to Eisner camp. I had an awesome time! This letter will tell you about my amazing time. I am going to tell about what I enjoyed doing, and what I learned about Judaism and myself. Once again, I had a great time. Enjoy the letter.

At Eisner camp, I had a lot of fun. Here are some of the things I enjoyed. In the recording studio, I sang

Yellow Submarine for my art elective. We were able to add a clarinet to the music, making it our own. I had a lot of fun playing tennis as my instructional sport. Every Friday night after services, we had a very energetic song session. It was so much fun because it was like a big concert, with everybody jumping and singing.

Limud, Jewish Education, was where we did our learning. It was mostly outside. Our main idea was God and his attributes. We had services daily. I learned that God can be anywhere at any time. We also did something called God shopping. In it, we “buy” some of God’s qualities, such as God created the world.

At Eisner camp, we also learn about ourselves. At the ropes course, I learned that if you put your mind to something, you can do it. We also had half of a day learning about stopping bullying. It was very powerful. They taught us how to act when we see someone being bullied. We also learned about important life lessons, like not gossiping, which can hurt other people’s feelings. That happened during services.

So, that was my experience at Eisner camp. As I hope you see, it is amazing to me. I hope you enjoyed the letter. Once again, thanks for creating the scholarship fund. Bye for now!

Sincerely,  
Alex Infeld

**Dear CBSRZ,**

I am writing a letter to you about Camp Eisner. First, I would like to tell you about some of the things I enjoyed most about camp. One of the most wonderful things about Camp Eisner is all of the relationships that staff and campers have. I made friends with a girl named Adina Feldman. We played lots of games together. At camp I learned some wonderful things about myself. One of the things that makes Eisner special is the Shabbat services—they were AMAZING! If you are going to Eisner then you should definitely look forward to them!

Your friend,  
Amina

**Dear Ms. Price,**

I would like to thank you personally for my summer at Crane Lake. This summer at camp was truly a wonderful experience for me, both as a 14-year old and as a Jew. At camp I had the chance to bond with my bunkmates and counselors, and make connections that will last a lifetime. Without the help of the congregation I would never have been able to have the summer of my life.

Many thanks,  
Max

**Dear Congregants of CBSRZ,**

My name is Lili Kleinberg, and I attended Eisner Camp for the first time this summer. It was a truly unforgettable experience, and I believe I gained a lot from it. I had never gone to sleep-away camp before, and I was very nervous. What if I made no friends, what if I got lost, what if I didn’t like the food? There were so many things I was unsure about. I am pleased to say, however, that the minute I got there I received a warm welcome from the counselors, who did their best to make sure I felt at home. By the first day I knew that I wasn’t going to go through camp alone, I would have help with whatever I needed from counselors and returning campers alike.

I also think that being at camp helped me develop more of a Jewish identity, I learned new prayers and hymns, I took Keshet classes, I learned about Jewish values, and so much more. Now I know more about Israel, and the actual language of Hebrew, thanks to the variety of different Geshet courses. I will be able to bring this learning back to CBSRZ and share it with my peers.

Camp didn’t help only my Jewish identity but also my overall personality. Before camp I was shy, quiet, and depended on others. I became so much more independent and learned to come out of my shell a little. I did my best to make friends, and I learned to advocate for myself. I am so grateful that Ms. Jo-Ann Price and the camp scholarship committee made it possible for me to have this life-changing experience! Many, many thanks!

Sincerely,  
Lili Kleinberg



## Dear Jo-Ann Price and Congregants of CBSRZ,

Thank you so much for the scholarship to attend Crane Lake Camp! Camp was the best! I had a great time and I did lots of swimming in the lake and the pool. I got to jump off the “wibbit” a huge inflatable in the middle of the lake! I had the chance to sail and kayak and paddle board! I went zip lining and did the low ropes course where I learned to work as part of a team.

Playing with the animals was lots of fun. There were puppies and llamas! Once I even picked up a chicken! I volunteered at the NY state food bank for a day and got to see how they prepare and distribute food that has been donated. On trip day we went to Lake Compounce. It was super fun! I went on roller coasters that went upside down!

There was t’fillah every morning and Limud every day. And the last week of camp my Unit led the Shabbat services. I was in song group! I really liked being part of a Jewish experience! I learned some new Hebrew words, the bunk next to mine had a counselor from Israel, and one day we built the city of Jerusalem out of Legos!

The last week of camp there was Maccabia! It is color war. There were lots of contests between the two teams, and you get to have lots of fun in your Unit while doing it. The best part of camp was meeting new friends and doing things together with them. The counselors were awesome! I can’t wait to go back next year!

Sincerely,

Benjamin Rosenblum-Jones & Family

## YOUTH NEWS

Youth Group is off to a great start and we are looking forward to having another fantastic year.

Last month we kicked off the year with an afternoon at Flight, an indoor Trampoline Park in New Britain, with 13 teens. It was a fun afternoon as we jumped on over 50 connected trampolines, played trampoline dodge ball, jumped off of launching decks of different levels, and did tricks into the foam pit. It was definitely a fun and tiring day!

This year again, we have been invited by JTConnect (Jewish Teen Learning Connection) of West Hartford to participate in programs when we are able to. There is a trip to NYC being planned



Benjamin Rosenblum-Jones (left) at Crane Lake Camp with two friends

on Sunday, November 10. Highlights of the day will include: Eldridge Street Synagogue, walking tour of the Lower East Side, kosher lunch and dinner, 9/11 Memorial, and Times Square. Teens will travel to and from NYC by train. JTConnect will also be holding their second Annual Chanukah Party Bus Scavenger Hunt on Saturday night, December 14. Teens will be in teams and travel around West Hartford in style while learning about Chanukah through a specially designed scavenger hunt. We have also been invited to participate in the JT-Cares program, a monthly Social Action program. Specific details will be emailed out as they become available.

Calling 10th–12th Graders! Join hundreds of other Jewish teens from all over the country on Capitol Hill in March! The L’Taken Social Justice Seminar will take place March 7–10 in Washington, DC. In partnership with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC), teens will have the opportunity to engage in our political process as they share their views on social justice topics with decision makers on Capitol Hill. During the program we will visit the National Holocaust Memorial Museum, Smithsonian Mall, Havdallah at the Jefferson Memorial and much more! Available spaces are limited!

Also for 10th–12th graders is March of the Living, a two-week experiential journey for high school students from April 24–May 8, 2014. Join teens from around the world for an extraordinary educational trip to Poland and Israel that

honors and celebrates our Jewish past, present, and future. For more information, check out [www.motl.org](http://www.motl.org).

Speaking of trips to Israel ... it is never too early to start thinking about a NFTY experience to Israel! Teens must be at least 15 years old in 2014 to participate. There is an Early Bird Discount if you register by January 1, 2014—you will receive a \$400 discount off any NFTY Israel program. For more detailed information about NFTY Israel programs, check out [www.nftyisrael.org](http://www.nftyisrael.org). Scholarships are available for both NFTY Israel and March of the Living.

Lastly, we are very excited about our New Youth Lounge! We are planning on launching our new space in December. At a recent youth group meeting, our teens came up with a wish list: couch(es), flat screen tv, gaming system, computer, carpet, mini fridge with lock. If you possibly have any of these items and would like to donate them to the Youth Lounge, please be in touch. Watch for pictures of our new space coming in a future Whole Megillah issue!

It is also never too late to get involved with Youth Group. If I haven’t met you yet, I hope you will give our Youth Group a try and hope to meet you soon. If you are not on our email list yet, and you are an 8th–12th grader or a parent of an 8th–12th grader, send me an email at [marckdf@aol.com](mailto:marckdf@aol.com) to be added to our list. If you have any questions about any of the programs mentioned above, please contact me.

-Marc Fink, Youth Advisor

# PICTURE GALLERY



Deborah Ruffy

Danny Kleiman and his sister Michele Kleiman at a party celebrating the exhibition of his paintings on Main Street.



Paula Reitsky

Congregation members disembarking from the Chester ferry after Tashlich



Paula Reitsky

Our beautifully decorated Sukkah





Paula Reitsky

Carrying the torah scroll at Simchat Torah



Deborah Ruffy

Rabbi Goldenberg surrounded by young Torah scholars and the unfurled scroll during Simchat Torah.



Paula Reitsky

Shofar apprentice Sara Gelven



Paula Reitsky

Hostess Suzanne Levine with Miriam Swidler and an elegant Stephen Davis at Mason & Hamlin's 100th.



Paula Reitsky

Dan Pardo, who delighted his audience at the celebration of Mason & Hamlin's 100th birthday.



# SOCIAL ACTION

## COMMITTEE NEWS

### A NEW YEAR — A RENEWED SET OF PRIORITIES

The Social Action Committee will continue themes we supported last year with our programming: hunger, homelessness, health, children's rights, prison reform, and tolerance. Within these areas, there are new projects and programs about which we are very excited. We welcome — and need — support from the entire congregation to make these programs a success. Please contact [andy@andrewschatz.com](mailto:andy@andrewschatz.com) to volunteer for any projects, or if you have an idea for another project.

#### **Focus On Hunger**

This coming year, as in previous years, SAC will focus on addressing hunger within our community. Activities include the food drive donation and sponsoring soup kitchens in both Chester and Deep River for the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries, the CBSRZ community garden, and raising money for Mazon. In addition, members of the SAC are working with SSKP and other community organizations on a new task force to address issues of hunger and self-sufficiency with research, publicity, and specific policy initiatives on the local and statewide levels. These community activities can help to alleviate this growing problem, which should not persist in this country, and certainly not in our region. Hunger was nearly eliminated in the United States in the late 1970s and should be again.

#### **Housing**

Each of the past two years, CBSRZ has combined forces with the United Church of Chester to furnish an apart-

ment in Middletown for a homeless person. We have worked in conjunction with End in Ten, a multi-organization effort supervised by St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic charity. This year, we will continue that effort and add at least one project with Habitat for Humanity of Middlesex, in which congregants will have an opportunity to work with Habitat to help build a house. The first project will take place in Middletown on Saturday, November 16, carrying on the work of hundreds of other volunteers (see related article in this issue).

#### **Health Care**

We continue to sponsor two Red Cross blood drives at CBSRZ each year, staffed in part by CBSRZ volunteers. The first blood drive will be on December 16. This event raises blood for the blood bank and awareness of this critical need throughout our area.

SAC continues to distribute important information on the federal Affordable Healthcare Act and health exchanges.

This year, we are looking at projects in two additional areas of health: mental health and the environment. Mental health programs, which have been severely underfunded, received renewed policy focus last year following the repeated gun violence throughout the country by persons with a history of mental illness. SAC team leaders plan to look at this issue from personal, community, and policy perspectives. Similarly, we are considering environmental action with a very local focus — including orchards and bird sanctuaries on CBSRZ property — and policy issues which are getting more attention in Connecticut and throughout the world, including food initiatives relating to genetically modified organisms. More to follow.

#### **Children's Rights**

SAC continues its role in collecting and providing essentials such as clothing, toys, and books directly to children and various area schools. On the policy front, following proposals outlined by speakers SAC brought to CBSRZ last year, we have also been involved in urging legislation to change the sentencing guidelines for juvenile defenders, which did not pass in the

last session of the legislature but can be accomplished this year.

#### **Prison Reform**

Following a year in which SAC presented several programs on prison reform issues, we will continue to work for policy changes in this area, including sentencing laws, issues in the women's prison in Niantic, and the overuse of solitary confinement, which has been shown to create mental health issues within the prisons.

#### **Tolerance**

Although SAC would welcome ideas for specific projects on tolerance, we continue to work with non-Jewish communities on our social action activities, thereby encouraging tolerance. This has included work with various churches on SAC projects, some of which are ongoing.

#### **Legislative Advocacy**

Although SAC continues to focus on many local individuals who need food, housing, and healthcare, and upon the organizations providing that assistance, we also continue to face many issues that can best be addressed through changes to laws and policies on a local, state, or national level. SAC was successful last year in addressing gun control issues and in encouraging action by other groups, including United Action of Connecticut, an organization of more than ten faith congregations (of which CBSRZ is the only Jewish community). As the broad geographic reach of the CBSRZ congregation permits a correspondingly broad impact in these areas, we will continue to seek to influence change where appropriate, and we hope to provide the opportunity and resources to allow many CBSRZ congregants to join in those efforts.

#### **Look for new SAC webpages on CBSRZ website**

New pages will contain the yearly calendar of activities along with brief descriptions of all initiatives. This will bring more detailed information to people who visit the website encouraging involvement and volunteerism. Please visit: <http://www.cbsrz.org/index.php?page=social-action>

## Help Us Build A House on November 16



Photo credit TK

Liberty Street house as of early August 2013

The Social Action Committee is recruiting ten to twelve congregants to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, November 16, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. We will be helping to build a house for a family in Middletown. Willing workers of all skill levels are needed. On-the-job training is available and, if you already have building skills, you might even be asked to lead a team.

Rabbi Goldenberg has given her approval for this Shabbat mitzvah.

Volunteers are asked to contact Wendy at the Temple or Debby Trautman, who is supervising this Social Action project, at [debbytrautmann@comcast.net](mailto:debbytrautmann@comcast.net).

After purchasing property in November 2012 and removing a damaged structure, Middlesex Habitat for Humanity is currently building its twelfth house in Middlesex County with a Habitat Partner Family. The three bedroom house is being constructed to full Energy Star standards and is designed to blend in with the existing homes on Liberty Street and the surrounding area.

The house will be fully accessible on the first floor with master bedroom, bath, laundry room, kitchen, and living area configured for easy access. The house design was developed with the assistance of Architecture for Humanity, a National non-profit agency committed to assisting agencies and organizations through the volunteer work of professional architects throughout the world.

As partners with Middlesex Habitat, the homeowners are participating in the construction of their home, completing at least 400 hours of “sweat equity” in construction and with other Habitat for Humanity activities. Construction, for which over 300 volunteers have helped, is expected to be completed in late fall.

**Help us build it!**

## CBSRZ High Holiday Food Drive a Ton of Success

Once again, the CBSRZ High Holiday food drive was a resounding success, delivering 2,630 pounds of food to the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries in Old Saybrook on September 16, the day following the Yom Kippur weekend.

Jeannie Abrahamson of Old Saybrook, who volunteers at the SSKP food

storage facility, said that the CBSRZ delivery each year is the largest she has seen, commenting that when the CBSRZ delivery arrived last year, her first day volunteering, she was concerned with the ability of the volunteers to handle all the bags and that no other delivery throughout the year came close to that size. Volunteers also noted that the variety of food from CBSRZ was greater than most donations, which would make recipients feel special.

Laura Dean-Frazier, manager of the food pantry for SSKP, noted that SSKP distributes 1,700 pounds of food per week, and the delivery helped restock the shelves of needed staples.

Andy Schatz, chair of the Social Action Committee at CBSRZ, who helped unload the truck, thanked all who had contributed to the food drive. Rona Malakoff supervised the food drive, and her son, Mack Goller, and several teenage friends helped load the truck at CBSRZ. Paula Feder, Beth Gottlieb, Johanna Schaefer, and Debby Trautman organized the distribution of bags and materials at CBSRZ. Lary Bloom made a special appeal for congregants to deliver food. And, most importantly, most of the congregation responded overwhelmingly, providing hundreds of bags of food.



Laura Dean-Frazier, pantry manager of SSKP, in the truck filled with donations from the synagogue.

# Chesed Corner

by Linda Sherman

So often, we think of Chesed in terms of specific things that we do to help members of our congregation who are grieving or in the hospital. But it is also about the unique little things that we each do that can make a big difference in someone else's life. One of the most wonderful things about CBSRZ is how well we already do this, as Evelyn Foster beautifully describes below.

Asked to write about my experience of Chesed, I thought, sure, I'll just look at what I said three years ago in my Rosh ha Shana reflection. At that time I spoke of my recovery from the initial, too long misdiagnosis and consequent amputation of my right hand.

"No new thoughts?" the Universe seemed to ask me. "We can help you with that. We can give you something new to write about." And so the Universe did.

Four days in the hospital with intravenous antibiotic and the infection was under control. But from the very moment it was known that I was headed to the hospital and frightened, the word spread. The outpouring of support, comfort, prayers, cards, and offers of help began and continued until well after I was home.

I'd driven myself to the hospital and fully intended to drive myself home after discharge. Not gonna happen.

Friends insisted on picking me up. We stopped to see their garden. We picked perfect pears from the tree and sun warmed pears, also perfect, from the ground. We hung out in the art studio, chatted, eventually drove to my house in tandem, where we hung out some more. The day's main event was no longer the struggle for an appropriate discharge plan. Instead, it was a balmy late summer afternoon spent with friends.

The critical matter in the discharge plan was how to continue intravenous antibiotics. Medicare options were ten days in a nursing home for two doses a day or outpatient infusion center for one dose a day but 30% less effective. Medicare would not cover the cost of a nurse coming to the house at one third the cost of a nursing home.

On the spot, six friends volunteered to learn how and took turns administering the antibiotic infusion, not something I could do with one hand.

I was able to be home with good company. I could enjoy deepening friendships while benefitting from the best available treatment. Many others said they too, would have been happy to join what someone called my SWAT team, so many, probably enough to have a different person for each of the remaining twenty infusions.

The generosity of time and meals, the inconvenience and trouble endured to enable me to be in my own house, the comfort, kindness, caring and support given freely, all gifts of healing for body and spirit.

Three years ago I said, "Never underestimate the value of Chesed and Bikoor Cholim." It bears repeating. Never underestimate the value of Chesed and Bikoor Cholim. Whatever traditional or alternative, Eastern or Western medicine is able to do, Chesed and Bikoor Cholim will enhance. I thank you all for once again getting me through.

## Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek

September 12, 2013

### Board of Directors

#### Highlights

- Rabbi's Report: preparation for the High Holidays, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. Working with Davis to create a workshop to discuss global issues like the Syrian situation. Passed first round of grant application with New Haven Federation for the funding of a senior coordinator.
- Financial: too early in season to report but dues are coming in on pace as last few years.
- Endowment is earning at an annualized rate of 4.1%
- The estate of Dick Schneller gave a \$50,000 gift which has been put into the endowment.
- The Board approved funds for the President to attend the December Biennial URJ meeting.
- The LeWitt kippa is now the official kippa of URJ. 1,000 have been ordered for the December Biennial meeting. CBSRZ will get \$18 per kippa sold for its general fund.
- New Members voted in:
  - Susan and Robert Furman, Killingworth
  - Teresa and David Fogel, Old Saybrook
  - Shelley Sprague and Steven Barasz, Killingworth
  - Paula Retsky, Chester
- Bloom piano fund raiser brought in about \$5,000 of net proceeds for the operating fund.
- Three capital projects were approved with the funds coming from the Capital Fund:
  - \$5,000 for retrofitting windows in the School wing (this is a test as there are more windows to be replaced);
  - \$1,500 to place a permanent awning over the kitchen door;
  - \$3,500 to install an automatic assisted door opener to one set of the main entrance doors
- Centerpiece discussion was presentation of a white paper on secular staffing at CBSRZ. After a lengthy discussion the President appointed an Ad Hoc committee to report back to the Board at the November 10th Board meeting with specific recommendations regarding secular staffing at CBSRZ.
- Music and More schedule was announced:
  - March 9 Howard Fishman
  - April 20 Patricia Schuman & David Pittsinger
  - May 18 Eva Virsik
  - June 22 Picnic with A Klez Act



## Second Saturday December Honoree: **Kevin Fox**

**I**t's a long drive, but Kevin Fox makes it regularly, commuting from his home in Farmington to CBSRZ in Chester. Kevin will be honored at the second Saturday Shabbat service at 10:30 on December 14, not for the mileage he puts on his car, but for his services to the synagogue.

Kevin is one of CBSRZ's three gabbais, whose duty it is to ensure the smooth running of services. That can mean anything from handing out prayer books to making sure that those congregants with honors get to the bima at the correct point in the service. (The other two gabbais are Laura Roman and Henry Resnikoff.) Kevin volunteered for the job and is glad that he did. "I love it," he says.

In addition, Kevin is CBSRZ's treasurer, responsible with financial vice president Sandy Seidman, for the ongoing economic health of the synagogue. He is the synagogue's representative to the Greater New Haven Jewish Foundation, with which CBSRZ invests its funds. According to Kevin, the synagogue's investment committee decided to place its funds with the foundation some three or four years ago. "So far so good," he says of the investment results.

For the last two years, Kevin has also been in charge of the CBSRZ golf tournament, played at Fox Hopyard Golf Club in East Haddam. "We've raised some money but not as much as we should have," Kevin admits. This year, the tournament will be scheduled on a Sunday. "That's so people can't tell me they can't take a day off from work," Kevin explains.

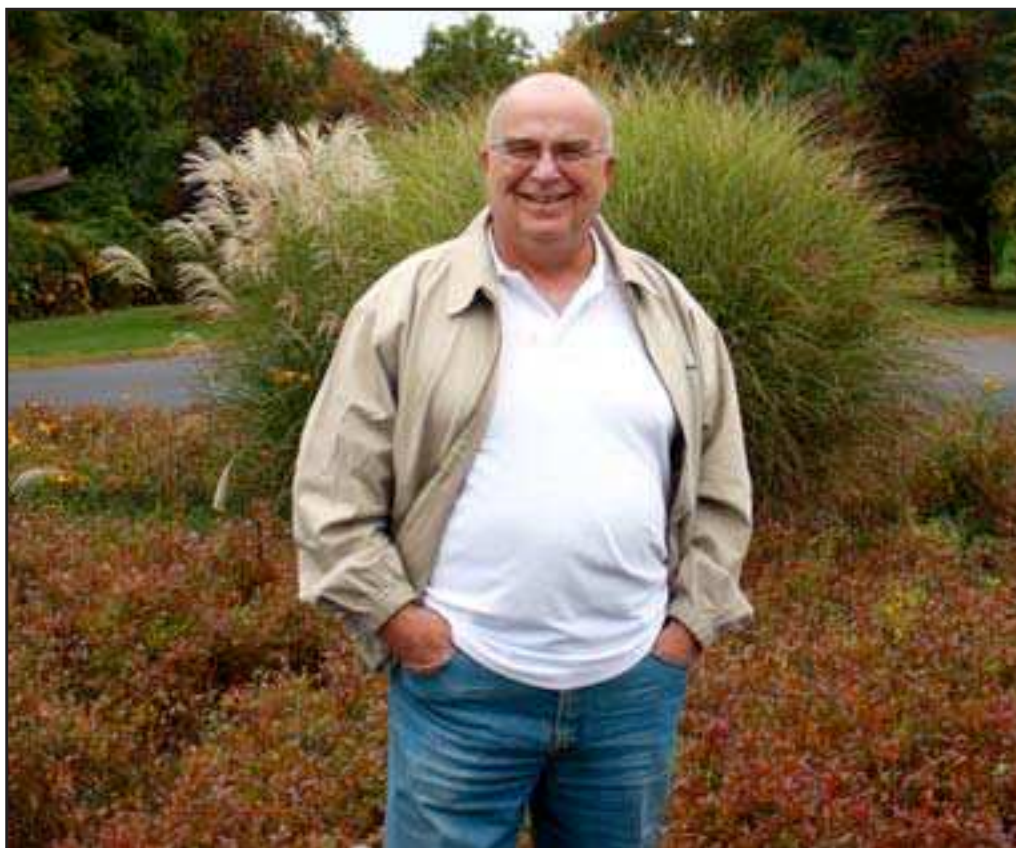
Kevin recalls his was the first Bar Mitzvah in the congregation he attended in his native Manchester, New Hampshire. After that he did not attend regularly. "I avoided it," he says. But years later, Saturday morning Torah study at CBSRZ's Holy Scrollers drew him back to synagogue. He describes what happened with attendance at Holy Scrollers as an epiphany.

Now he is a fixture at Torah study, a regular attendee who sits always in the same corner seat. He enjoys his role as a listener. "There are people who know so much more than I do," he says. The area he feels informed and ready to speak on is his workday world. "I know finance," he says. Kevin is a financial advisor for Stifel Nicolaus in Avon.

Last year, Kevin chanted Torah for the first time at a CBSRZ Second Saturday Shabbat. He says it was a challenging experience but one that he enjoyed. "I wanted to do it, because I had never done it. It was a good thing, a terrific thing to do," he recalls. It was so rewarding, in fact, that he will chant again at a Second Saturday service this year.

Kevin describes CBSRZ as a vibrant and encompassing synagogue but adds that its vibrancy depends on the participation of its congregation. "People have to come," he says.

Those attending the second Saturday service to honor Kevin Fox on December 14 at 10:30 are encouraged to bring a dairy dish for the communal lunch that follows the service. The synagogue provides bagels and assorted toppings.



Kevin Fox

# CBSRZ NEWS

## THE WOMEN OF CBSRZ

by Suzanne Levine

Twenty-four of us met in September to begin building a community of women who are psyched to foster sisterhood and build relationships through a deeper awareness of our spirituality. There are a myriad of opportunities: the Women's Seder, honoring our all female B'Not Mitzvah class, exploring the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project, assisting the Chesed Committee, and the gift shop, for starters!

Not to worry, there will still be books to read, trips to take, cookbook planning with Lynne Stiles, more social activities and on and on, although, New Rules: know that when you pitch an idea, you basically own it. No more "drive-by" dropping off great ideas. If an idea is truly important to you, do the research; find out what's involved and bring it up at the next meeting. Tapping

into our existing wisdom by building relationships can only strengthen us.

Please, if you did not get a notice of our September meeting and want to be involved, let me know at [susahtfd@yahoo.com](mailto:susahtfd@yahoo.com).



Mason Nicholas Resnikoff, one month old.

Mason Nicholas Resnikoff was born on August 20. He is the grandson of Henry Resnikoff and Daphne Nielsen and the son of Jacob and Dana Resnikoff. Mazel tov!

The Social Action Committee is hoping to get ten to twelve congregants to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity on November 15th. We will be helping build a house in Middletown between the hours of 8:30-3:30. Volunteers are asked to contact Wendy at the Temple.

## THE CBSRZ JOB BANK

job bank

**noun**

a data file or agency for matching persons seeking work with suitable job openings.

Do you need work, or do you need reliable employees? If so, become part of the CBSRZ job bank, which matches employers and qualified people in our congregation to fill key positions. The new head of our job bank is fellow congregant John Hausman. Write him at [cbsrz.jobbank@gmail.com](mailto:cbsrz.jobbank@gmail.com). All of the information submitted is treated as confidential.

Bea and Lew Case have recently moved to Massachusetts to be closer to their son Ed. They would love to stay in touch. Bea and Lew's new address is Stone Institute, 277 Elliot St., Room 4, Newton Upper Falls, MA 02464. Please contact Wendy at the CSBRZ office if you would like their phone numbers.



Linda Sherman

Women Torah scholars, (from left to right) Susan Peck, Suzanne Levine, Meg Magida, and Dana Dixon, pondering the text of Bereshit as the cycle of reading the Torah begins anew. Michael Greenaway and David Hays are in the background.



## The Archaeology of Ashkelon

November 3rd, 11AM

Elliot Schwam will share his recent experiences as a team member with the Leon Levy Harvard Expedition in Ashkelon, Israel that has unearthed 3000 years of settlements in this ancient port city from the Canaanites to the Crusaders.

## Meet our “New” CBSRZ Members at the next Shabbat Oneg and discover

which one is a portraitist? Is she the one with the camera?

Who is the sculptor? Does he have clay under his fingernails?

The dentist? Is he wearing a mask?

A financial planner? The one with the calculator?

Teresa and David Fogel from Old Saybrook

Susan and Robert Furman from Killingworth

Shelley Sprague and Steven Gay Barasz from Killingworth

Paula Retsky from Chester

And don't forget our mantra for 5774, the Year of Engagement.

Engage, engage!

## BEAT THE WINTER BLUES FILM CLUB

The film club's inaugural offering, *Fill the Void*, will be screened at the synagogue on November 17 at 4:30 pm. Three other presentations will follow on Sunday afternoons through the winter



Excavation at Ashkelon

Elliot Schwam

months, when we will gather for movies, munchies, and schmoozing.

*Fill the Void* tells the story of eighteen-year-old Shira, who is the youngest daughter in an Orthodox Hassidic family. She is set to be married to a promising young man when her sister Esther dies in childbirth. The grief that follows overwhelms the family, postponing Shira's match. When the girls' mother finds out that Esther's widower may leave the country with her only grandchild to marry again, she proposes a match between Shira and her son-in-law. Shira will have to choose between her heart's wish and her family duty. The acclaimed film, directed by Rama Burshtein, herself an Israeli Orthodox Jew, won seven Israeli Academy Awards and a Best Actress award for newcomer Hadas Yaron (Shira) at the Venice Film Festival. The movie is in Hebrew with English subtitles.

*The Other Son*, to be shown on December 22 at 4:00 pm, explores cultural and religious biases through the story of two boys born in the same hospital, one Israeli, the other Palestinian. They're evacuated during a missile attack, accidentally switched and raised by each other's families for the next 18 years. The mistake is discovered when the Israeli boy registers for the army which requires DNA testing, revealing his Arabic roots. The families must then decide how to proceed and confront what makes a person who he is. The film is French with English subtitles.

The film club will also present selections on January 19th and February 23rd. For further information or to suggest movies, please contact Gay Clarkson at [gaywil2@aol.com](mailto:gaywil2@aol.com) or Clo Davis at [clo.davis@gmail.com](mailto:clo.davis@gmail.com).

compliments of the Zimmel family

# Alforno

RISTORANTE with Brick Oven Pizza

1654 Boston Post Rd, Old Saybrook, CT 06475 • 860-399-4166

[www.alforno.net](http://www.alforno.net)



We hope you enjoyed the bagels and lox platters at the Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast! Please come and visit us for more delicious food.

# REMEMBRANCE

## Memorial Plaques

Heshvan 28 - Kislev 27, 5774

Jack Banner  
 Bunie Baron  
 Esther Baron  
 Jack Baron  
 Sam Chiat  
 Harry Debowsky  
 Isadore Elson  
 Jerome Fischbach  
 Nathen Frankel  
 Helen Friedman  
 Rachel Friedman  
 Rachel Friend  
 Florence Gage  
 Harry Glazer  
 Paul Jaffe  
 Joseph Katz  
 Miriam Klar

Florence Klein  
 Leonard Klein  
 William Kotchen  
 Rosamond LeWitt  
 Joseph Mager  
 Gladys Oppenheimer  
 Hyman Peck  
 Philip Peckeroff  
 Rabbi Alexander Schindler  
 Sonia Schulman  
 Lillian Shaffel  
 Morris Sigel  
 Samuel L. Sollins  
 Lester Sondak  
 Abraham Sprecher  
 Benjamin Sprecher  
 Julius Starr  
 Justine V. Tobias  
 Regina Waldinger  
 Dora Zelvin

## Memorial Plaques

Kislev 28 - Tevet 28, 5774

Eleanor Adler  
 Lawrence Joel Adler  
 Samuel Adler  
 Abraham Altman  
 Leah Baron  
 Sarah Baum  
 Benjamin Beizer  
 Martha Bernstein  
 Rosalind Berwick  
 Harry Breitman  
 Bella Breslow  
 Harris Breslow  
 Abraham Buchzeiger  
 David Cirulnik  
 Davida Schatz Edelson  
 Dora Feingold  
 Max Fine

Eva Fisher  
 Rose Frankel  
 Jack Freed  
 Mary Pinkus Goldstein  
 Sol Harris  
 Irving Isaacson  
 Herbert Kabatznick  
 Edna Kleiman  
 Harold Leichtman  
 M.C. LeWitt  
 Jack Lifshitz  
 Victor Marko  
 Pauline Mazer  
 Yetta Michael  
 Marvin Palmer  
 Abraham Peckeroff  
 Jacob Rabinowitz  
 Rita Rogers  
 Minnie Rogow  
 Jacob Ronor

Yetta Sacks  
 Sadie Samuels  
 Selick Samuels  
 Arthur Schur  
 Irving Schwolsky  
 Rayann Seidman  
 Frances Siegel  
 Ruth Silverman  
 Max Simon  
 Esther Sivin  
 Fannie Sober  
 Samuel Sondak  
 Arthur Tobias  
 Pearl Weiner  
 Max Zavadnick  
 Irving Ziprin

## Yahrzeits

Heshvan 28 - Kislev 27, 5774

William Beckerman - father of Barbara Beckerman  
 Jerome Boardman - son of Jennie Shapiro  
 Celia Braunstein - grandmother of Natalie Lindstrom  
 Barbara Bruno - sister of David Bruno  
 Frances Fine - mother of Philip Fine  
 Dora Fink - mother of Hyman Fink  
 Jerome Fischbach - father of Nancy Fischbach  
 Erwin Fischer - grandfather of Rick Hornung  
 Helen Friedman - sister of Estelle Breslow  
 Rachel Friend - grandmother of Sheila Friend Byrne  
 Barry Gilman - cousin of Ellen Gottfried  
 Helen Gilman - aunt of Ellen Gottfried  
 Adaline Barbara Goodman - sister of Linda Polomski  
 Lawrence Gottfried - brother of Ellen Gottfried  
 Benjamin Greenberg - father of Penny Robiner  
 Richard Hays - brother of David Hays  
 Marcus Hoberman - father of Harvey Hoberman  
 Benjamin Jackoway - father of Rita Fink  
 Bernard Kalet - brother of Gene Kalet  
 Joseph Katz - father of Leah Pear  
 Miriam Klar - wife of David Klar; mother of Iris Klar  
 Florence Klein - stepmother of Maxine Klein  
 Leonard Klein - father of Maxine Klein  
 Rosamond LeWitt - mother of James Cohen  
 Joseph Mager - brother of Estelle Breslow  
 Beverly Gilman McCaffrey - cousin of Ellen Gottfried  
 Eileen Moran - sister-in-law of George Amarant  
 Sylvia Price - mother of Michael Price  
 Lubah Peck Ruben - beloved parent of Michael Peck  
 Dorothy Rubin - mother of Matthew Rubin  
 Rabbi Alexander Schindler - father of Debby Trautmann  
 Lillian Shaffel - mother of Maxine Leichtman  
 Esther Smith - mother of Susan Furman  
 Sol Stolowy - grandfather of Ethan Goller  
 Justine V. Tobias - mother of Justine Redak  
 Silvia White - mother-in-law of Marilyn White-Gottfried  
 Jerry Wolfe - father of Lynne Triebel  
 Olive Wright - mother of Doris Helbling

## Yahrzeits

Kislev 28 - Tevet 28, 5774

Eleanor Adler - mother of Jacqueline Michael  
 Lawrence Joel Adler - brother of Rochelle Dauenhimer  
 Samuel Adler - father of Jacqueline Michael  
 Sylvia Baker - mother of Stu Baker  
 Norman Bass - father of Susan Fine  
 Pearl Bass - mother of Susan Fine  
 Howard Beckerman - brother of Barbara Beckerman  
 Rosella Berkon - grandmother of Rebecca Blake  
 Alvin Bielot - father of Doreen Joslow  
 Gilda Biener - cousin of Eve Ber  
 Breindel Bloch - grandmother of Michael Crair  
 Bella Breslow - mother-in-law of Estelle Breslow  
 Max Case - father of Lewis Case  
 David Cirulnik - grandfather of Ellen Friedman  
 Leroy Averill Cohen - father of Hila Rosen  
 Gertrude Coville - grandmother of Lynn Coville  
 Hyman Farber - father of Beverly Glassman  
 Irving S. Frum - father of Miriam Gardner-Frum  
 Herb Golden - uncle of Leslie Krumholz  
 Arthur Goldstein - father of Harvey Goldstein  
 Mary Pinkus Goldstein - mother of Jackie Hastings  
 Ethel Goodman - mother of Linda Polomski  
 Victor Gottfried - father of Corinne Weber  
 Max Guttman - father of Evelyn Foster  
 Victor Heller - father of Betty Gilman  
 Constance Hieatt - sister of Ellen Nodelman  
 Alanna Hitschmann - friend of Marilyn and Gene Kalet  
 Hanna Issner - grandmother of Marlene Scharr;  
 great-grandmother of Janet Scharr Gochberg  
 Anna Kandell - mother of Marilyn Kalet  
 Kurt Kaufmann - father of Janie Pittendreich  
 Edna Kleiman - wife of Howard Kleiman; mother of Michele Kleiman  
 Howard Kurtzberg - mother of Howard Kurtzberg  
 Harold Leichtman - father-in-law of Maxine Leichtman  
 Dolores Malakoff - mother of Rona Malakoff  
 Ann Marcus - mother of Natalie Lindstrom;  
 grandmother of Lauren & Meg Gister  
 Yetta Michael - mother-in-law of Jacqueline Michael  
 Muriel Moran - mother of Donna Moran  
 Dr. Tage Nielsen - father of Daphne Nielsen  
 Laurette Pinn - mother of Ed Pinn  
 Israel Resnikoff - father of Henry Resnikoff  
 Rita Rogers - wife of Samuel Rogers  
 Esther Schaffer - mother of Marilyn White-Gottfried  
 Georganne Schrepferman - mother of Lisanne Kaplan  
 Irving Schwolsky - father of John and Peter Schwolsky  
 Rayann Seidman - wife of Sandy Seidman  
 Marc Sherman - brother of Linda Pinn  
 Cynthia Shiffman - wife of Irving Shiffman  
 Frances Siegel - grandmother of James Cohen  
 Rose Stolowy - grandmother of Ethan Goller  
 Rev. Robert Trautmann - father of Bob Trautmann  
 Victor Udoff - father of Erica Udoff  
 Yvonne Young - friend of Bob & Debby Trautmann  
 Gilbert Ziff - brother of Barbara Edelson

## Mi SheBeirach List

Linda Thal  
 Marilyn Buel  
 Jo Watanabe  
 Louise Ross  
 Eileen Ilberman  
 Jill Nadler  
 Leonard Nodelman  
 Michelle Palmer  
 Noah Lourie-Mosher  
 Jeffrey Rosenberg  
 Michael Zimmel  
 Regan Konecky  
 Robb Prchal  
 Joyce Krempel  
 Jackie Michael  
 Joel Pear  
 Pat Smith  
 Gene Kalet

## Condolences

**Our heartfelt condolences are extended to:**

Tyler Thorpe, Jeannette Ickovics and Sam and Ethan Thorpe on the recent loss of Tyler's father, Charles Thorpe.

Pauline and Xander Kaplan on the recent loss of Pauline's husband and Xander's father, Howard Kaplan.

Lisa, Sean, Bryce and Ella Connelly on the recent loss of Lisa's grandfather, Herbert Small.



# NOVEMBER 2013

**28 Heshvan-  
27 Kislev,  
5774**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> 28 HESHVAN 5:45 pm Tot Shabbat 6:15 pm Dairy Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm First Friday Erev Shabbat Service	<b>2</b> 29 HESHVAN 9:30 am Holy Scrollers
<b>3</b> 30 HESHVAN 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:15 am - 10:30 am Breakfast with Rabbi (Grades K/1) 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew 9:30 am Religious School 11:00 am Archaeology of Ashkelon with Elliot Schwam 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Confirmation	<b>4</b> 1 KISLEV	<b>5</b> 2 KISLEV	<b>6</b> 3 KISLEV 7:45 am Morning Minyan 8:45 am Religious Affairs 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 4:15 pm Religious School	<b>7</b> 4 KISLEV	<b>8</b> 5 KISLEV 7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>9</b> 6 KISLEV Religious School (in lieu of Nov 10th) 10:30 am 2nd Saturday Shabbat Service and Kiddush Luncheon
<b>10</b> 7 KISLEV 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm Jewish War Veterans - Remembering Krystallnacht	<b>11</b> 8 KISLEV Office Closed	<b>12</b> 9 KISLEV 3:00 pm SSKP Board Meeting 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Adult Bat Mitzvah Workshop	<b>13</b> 10 KISLEV 7:45 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 4:15 pm Religious School	<b>14</b> 11 KISLEV 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch & Learn: Jewish Responses to Big Ethical Questions 7:00 pm Board of Directors	<b>15</b> 12 KISLEV I 7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service with Choir	<b>16</b> 13 KISLEV 8:30 am - 3:30 pm Habitat for Humanity House in Middletown
<b>17</b> 14 KISLEV 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew 9:30 am Religious School 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm UACT Listening Campaign Feedback; 4:30 pm Beat the Winter Blues Film Club	<b>18</b> 15 KISLEV	<b>19</b> 16 KISLEV 7:00 pm - 9:00 am UACT Meeting	<b>20</b> 17 KISLEV 7:45 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 4:15 pm Religious School	<b>21</b> 18 KISLEV 5:30 pm Social Action	<b>22</b> 19 KISLEV 7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>23</b> 20 KISLEV 9:30 am Holy Scrollers
<b>24</b> 21 KISLEV 8:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:30 am Beginner Hebrew 9:30 am Hanukkah Program 9:30 am Religious School 11:30 am Confirmation 11:30 am Geshet 4:00 pm Beat the Winter Blues Film Club 4:00 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Service - United Church of Chester 12:00 pm Latke Making and Freezing	<b>25</b> 22 KISLEV	<b>26</b> 23 KISLEV 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Adult Bat Mitzvah Workshop	<b>27</b> 24 KISLEV No Religious School 7:45 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm Mah Jongg	<b>28</b> 25 KISLEV FIRST DAY OF CHANUKAH THANKSGIVING DAY  Office Closed	<b>29</b> 26 TISHRI CHANUKAH  Office Closed 7:30 pm Hanukkah Service and Celebration	<b>30</b> 27 KISLEV CHANUKAH

# DECEMBER 2013

**28 Kislev-  
28 Tevet,  
5774**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 28 KISLEV CHANUKAH No Religious School 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew 4:00 pm B'not Mitzvah benefit concert 12:00 pm Latke Making and Freezing	<b>3</b> 29 KISLEV CHANUKAH	<b>3</b> 30 KISLEV CHANUKAH	<b>4</b> 1 TEVET CHANUKAH 7:45 am Morning Minyan 8:45 am Religious Affairs 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 4:15 pm Religious School	<b>5</b> 2 TEVET LAST DAY OF CHANUKAH 7:00 pm Executive Committee	<b>6</b> 3 TEVET 5:45 pm Tot Shabbat 6:15 pm Dairy Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm First Friday Erev Shabbat Service	<b>7</b> 4 TEVET
<b>8</b> 5 TEVET 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:15 am - 10:30 am Breakfast with Rabbi (Grades 2/3) 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew 9:30 am Religious School 11:00 am Books & Bagels: Wally Lamb - "We are Water" 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Confirmation	<b>9</b> 6 TEVET	<b>10</b> 7 TEVET 3:00 pm SSKP Board Meeting 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Adult Bat Mitzvah Workshop	<b>11</b> 8 TEVET URJ Biennial - San Diego 7:45 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 4:15 pm Religious School	<b>12</b> 9 TEVET URJ Biennial - San Diego 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch & Learn: Jewish Responses to Big Ethical Questions	<b>13</b> 10 TEVET URJ Biennial - San Diego 5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service followed by Dinners in Congregants homes	<b>14</b> 11 TEVET URJ Biennial - San Diego 10:30 am 2nd Saturday Shabbat Service with Kiddush Luncheon
<b>15</b> 12 TEVET URJ Biennial - San Diego 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew 9:30 am - 11:00 am ComCom 9:30 am Religious School 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Confirmation 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Geshet	<b>16</b> 13 TEVET 12:30 pm - 6:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive	<b>17</b> 14 TEVET	<b>18</b> 15 TEVET 7:45 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 4:15 pm Religious School 7:00 pm Board of Directors	<b>19</b> 16 TEVET 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Adult Bat Mitzvah Rehearsal	<b>20</b> 17 TEVET 5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service with Choir	<b>21</b> 18 TEVET
<b>22</b> 19 TEVET No Religious School 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Chester Soup Kitchen 4:00 pm Beat the Winter Blues Film Club	<b>23</b> 20 TEVET	<b>24</b> 21 TEVET	<b>25</b> 22 TEVET No Religious School Office Closed 7:45 am Morning Minyan	<b>26</b> 23 TEVET 7:00 pm Executive Committee	<b>27</b> 24 TEVET 5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>28</b> 25 TEVET 10:30 am Shabbat Service and Bat Mitzvah of Casey Elkin
<b>29</b> 26 TEVET No Religious School 8:30 am - 9:30 am Advanced Hebrew 9:30 am - 10:30 am Beginner Hebrew	<b>30</b> 27 TEVET	<b>31</b> 28 TEVET				



Beth Shalom  
Rodfe Zedek

55 East Kings Highway  
PO Box 438  
Chester, CT 06412

Return Service Requested

The Whole Megillah may be viewed  
in color on the web at [www.cbsrz.org](http://www.cbsrz.org)

FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 415  
NEW HAVEN, CT

## Many thanks to these recent Oneg sponsors

Suzanne Levine  
Beth Gottlieb  
Beth Brewer  
Evelyn Foster  
Marilyn Kalet  
Rita Fink  
Susan Fine  
Lynne Stiles  
Linda Rigono  
Hila Rosen  
Linda Sherman  
Adele Saykin

and Howard Kaplan for providing the beautiful challah