Inside this issue

Installation Schedule of Events..................................7

Cindy Brown Austin at Book & Bagels...........................4

Dorothy "Sis" Palmer Art Exhibition................................8

Scholar in Residence Tina Wasserman..............................10

Installation of Rabbi Marci Bellows pg 6

Henry Schilo, Aaron. 1874 (Wikimedia Commons).
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FROM OUR RABBI

Books and Bagels

Installation

installation schedule

Scholar in Residence

Kivun

Benjamin Rosenblum-Jones

Birthdays

Photo Gallery

Religious Affairs

Social Action

CBSRZ News

Remembrances

Calendars

Music & More

Neil Gottfried & Marilyn White-Gottfried: in memory of Barbara Margolis
Neil Gottfried & Marilyn White-Gottfried: in memory of Rabbi Harold White

Chessed Fund

Neil Gottfried & Marilyn White-Gottfried: in memory of Samuel and Esther Schaffer

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Gene & Marilyn Kalat: in memory of Doris Reiner, Abe Kandell and Sara Swing
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Carol, Saria and Eve LeWitt: in memory of Abraham LeWitt
Meg Majida: in memory of Nathan H. Magida
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Anthony & Linda Riggett: in memory of Irane Kemp
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Joel & Marcry Saltzman: in memory of Daniel Weintraub
Joel & Marcry Saltzman: in memory of Rose Weintraub
Elliot & Nancy Schwam: In honor of Rabbi Marci Bellows
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Michael & Susan Peck: in honor of Stephen & Clo Davis’ sons marriage

From Our Rabbi

Books and Bagels

Installation

Installation Schedule

Dorothy Palmer

Scholar in Residence

Kivun

Benjamin Rosenblum-Jones

Birthdays

Photo Gallery

Religious Affairs

Social Action

CBSRZ News

Remembrances

Calendars

2
November brings us well into the autumn, and it is getting colder and colder outside. The leaves have fallen, the winter jackets have come out of storage, and we huddle under blankets to keep warm. On the Hebrew calendar, you may have noticed that we have no holidays this month. Most of November is taken up by the Hebrew month of Cheshvan, dubbed “Mar Cheshvan,” “Bitter Cheshvan” by our ancestors due to its lack of holidays (though, following the busy High Holy Day season, many clergy think Cheshvan is pretty sweet!).

As Americans, November brings us the wonderful holiday of Thanksgiving. Many of us might feel somewhat ambivalent about linking Judaism to Thanksgiving. One might wonder, “Is it even really appropriate to celebrate Thanksgiving as a Jew?” 1492, the year that Christopher Columbus discovered America, was not such a good year for the Jews of Spain, who were expelled from the country at the same time.

Nonetheless, I am pleased to tell you that, Yes! Thanksgiving is a wonderful holiday to celebrate, both as Jews and as Americans. There are also many historians who believe that the early Pilgrims may have drawn on the biblical festival of Sukkot as inspiration for their Thanksgiving celebration. Though Thanksgiving is completely secular, there are many ways to bring a bit of a Jewish “flair” to your celebration.

Thanks to a website called Ritualwell (www.ritualwell.org), we can access a number of inspirational prayers, psalms, poems, and readings to include in our Thanksgiving gatherings. Consider adding one of the following readings to your family’s dinner:

**A Thanksgiving Prayer, by Rabbi Naomi Levy**

For the laughter of the children,
For my own life breath,
For the abundance of food on this table,
For the ones who prepared this sumptuous feast,
For the roof over our heads,
The clothes on our backs,
For our health,
And our wealth of blessings,
For this opportunity to celebrate with family and friends,
For the freedom to pray these words
Without fear,
In any language,
In any faith,
In this great country,
Whose landscape is as vast and beautiful as her inhabitants.
Thank You, God, for giving us all these. Amen.

Also, as we thank those who prepared our delicious feasts, let us also offer gratitude to the farmers and other workers who provide us with such nutritious and beautiful bounty.

Today as we gather in the American tradition of Thanksgiving, we give thanks to our family and friends, our community, our nation, and our God for our many blessings. Now as we say the Birchat Hamazon, we especially consider the immigrants in our family who brought us to this land, and the labor of the many whose hands brought food to our table for this celebration.

We begin with a blessing:

**Barukh atah Adonay, Eloheynu melekh ha’olam, hazan et ha’olam kulo b’tuvo bekheyn bekhesed uv’ra’hamim.**

Blessed is Adonay our God, Sovereign of the universe, who sustains the entire world with goodness, kindness and mercy.

Adonay, as you allowed the first immigrants to this country to survive their first harsh winter, we pray that new immigrants experiencing their first Thanksgiving today have the opportunity to celebrate in peace and joy.

May immigrants be welcomed with respect and hospitality.

Let us also acknowledge the tragic losses of the native people. May Adonay help us to honor those who mourn the loss of their ancestors even as we give thanks today, and help us to remember and guard against the harmful effects of colonization.

**Blessed is Adonay, who provides food for all.** Each of us was created in God’s image, making it our responsibility to provide food to our neighbor. May Adonay help us to show mercy and lovingkindness to each other as God does for us, and help us find the ingenuity and determination to care for all of our brothers and sisters across the globe.

**Blessed is Adonay for the land and its produce.** Blessed are the workers who plant and harvest our food, and who process and package it. May Adonay help us to treat workers with dignity and respect, by advocating for their rights to a living wage and benefits that protect their families.

May Adonay help us to remember today, and every day, the labor of all workers who allow us to eat and be satisfied.

**Blessed is Adonay for our many blessings.** May our God tend and nourish us, sustain and maintain us, and speedily grant us relief from all our troubles. May Adonay make us dependent not on the alms or loans of others, but rather on God’s full, open and generous hand, so that we may never be humiliated or put to shame. May Adonay help us to never humiliate or put to shame those in need, and help us to give aid with respect and dignity.

**May the Merciful One grant us an honorable livelihood.** May the Merciful One grant us the strength to speak out when someone in our community does not treat workers honorably.

**May the Merciful One break the yoke of our oppression.** May the Merciful One break the yokes of all who are oppressed around the globe, and speedily grant relief to those who are hungry and oppressed.

**May the Merciful One send abundant blessing upon this dwelling and the table at which we have eaten.**

**May the Merciful One bless all who are now oppressed and bring them from darkness into light.**

**May the One who makes peace in the heavens let peace descend on us all, and let us say: Amen.**

May Adonay give strength to our people; may Adonay bless our people with peace; may Adonay bless all people with peace. And let us say: Amen.

May we all have a meaningful holiday, filled with moments of gratitude, celebration, love, and joy.

L’shalom,
— Rabbi Marci Bellows
Twenty-five years ago, while I was editor of the Hartford Courant’s Sunday magazine, an essay called “Streets of Poison” landed on my desk. I was stunned by its eloquence and power. The writer, unknown to me at the time, detailed what the newspaper had only reported superficially — everyday life in the poorest sections of the city as described by someone who grew up in its disheartening and often violent urban projects.

Over the next several years, I published many pieces by Cindy Brown Austin, a circumstance that cost her dearly. Her unflinching honesty created controversy in her own community, as many argued she was portraying the poor, particularly fellow urban blacks, in an unfavorable light. Yet she persisted because she felt the world needed to know about the mothers who pined for their murdered children, the lack of hope, the hunger and fear, and the dreadful human consequences of racism.

As an editor and a friend over these years, I became deeply attached to Cindy, and gratified that her work proliferated. Readers Digest often reprinted it. Her intensely personal revelations — such as having her third child by the time she was 19, and needing to shoo away the cockroaches from a dresser drawer in order for the infant to have a place to sleep — drew a nationwide audience. Scribner published her novel, By the Rivers of Babylon. And eventually, readers learned that Cindy and her husband David, married since 1983, have attended the college graduations of three of their four daughters.

Longtime members of CBSRZ may recall that Cindy, who is also a minister in her Hartford church, was our guest speaker on a Martin Luther King celebration in the old synagogue on Union Street in Deep River. That night she impressed congregants with her comparison of Dr. King and Moses.

When she comes to our Chester building for the first time on November 6, she will bring a new message, one of irony that will resonate two days before the national election.

Her memoir details hair-raising events, including the whizzing of bullets past her head. But when we talked in early October, she told me of a recent incident in Windsor Locks, and confided, “For the first time in my life I was afraid of the mob. I’m a tough person. I’m not usually afraid of anybody.”

She and David were staying a hotel because the mold in her Windsor home had made them ill. One night she went out to get a burger, and then on her return, outside of the hotel, “a group of young white guys, twenty somethings blocked...
the doorway. I had to get past them to get into the building. For the first time, I was so afraid. I asked myself, why am I so afraid? I said hello, but there was such hostility in return. You could feel the mob thing.

“For the first time in my life I felt what tyranny must feel like. They were emboldened. When Trump steps into the spotlight, we, as blacks, tremble. We have so little, and to be hated by someone who has so much is so unfair. He’s stirred up the crowd, brought out so much fear. For black people, the doors are shut. If Hillary doesn’t get in, I can’t even imagine what will happen. The threat is so real. Everybody’s afraid.”

Indeed, indignities intensify. Recently, her husband David, on the same route to work through the suburbs as he’s followed for twenty years, was stopped by the Simsbury police, his car searched for weapons and drugs, just because he had made the terrible mistake of driving while black. (Cindy, outraged, drew an apology from police headquarters.)

Cindy’s appearance at our synagogue was arranged by our Program chair, Tracy Kleinberg. She says, “What an incredible learning opportunity for our community to have someone come and speak about being on the front lines of issues like racism and poverty, especially in today’s political and social climate where it is of the utmost importance to begin to listen and understand each other. The more people who can engage in conversation about the very real situations in underserved communities the better off we will be as a society as a whole.”

Andy Schatz, chair of Social Action, says, “One of our social action themes at CBSRZ has been to embrace diversity, and we have focused on the challenges of anti-Semitism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and racism. Cindy Brown Austin tells some real-life stories behind those challenges, set in Hartford, one of the poorest cities in one of the richest states in America. Although we have been spared the most public examples of tragic conflict between police and community in recent years, those problems exist here as well. We hope everyone will come to discuss with Cindy her stories and what we all might do to change the narrative of our times.”
The installation of a new rabbi is a joyous occasion.

**Please join us in formally welcoming Rabbi Marci Bellows into Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek**

Joining us for the ceremony will be Rabbi Elisa F. Koppel, who currently serves as the Director of Lifelong Learning at Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington, DE.

Rabbi Bellows has provided us with the following notes about the celebration.

Rabbi Koppel is a dear friend and inspiration to me. She is an incredible writer, preacher, and educator. I truly admire her use of pop culture and technology in her efforts to connect with congregants of all ages. She exemplifies the idea of “meeting the people where they are.”

We both took part in the Rabbis Shave for the Brave event (http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/168597/rabbi-shave-athon-raises-nearly-600000). We were among 70 rabbis who shaved our heads bald in 2014 as a way to raise funds for and awareness of childhood cancers, and, at this point, we have raised more than $1 million dollars.

**Why an installation?**

The installation of a new rabbi allows the congregation and the rabbi to ritually, and formally, acknowledge the new relationship between both parties. Being a rabbi is not like any other job, where you just start and proceed day-by-day. Rather, we raise the moment to one of a sacred partnership, and we highlight the covenant built between us. This usually involves a special section during the worship service on Shabbat, distinguished guests and speakers, and other festivities.

**Why in November?**

There are different advantages and disadvantages to planning the installation at various times. Some rabbis are installed closer to their contractual start date of July 1. However, this can be challenging for an installation since it falls while many people are away for the summer, and they haven’t had a chance to get to know the new rabbi yet. Holding the installation celebration following the High Holy Days feels strange because the rabbi has already been working there for nearly five months, but now the majority of the community has had a chance to get to know the rabbi (particularly throughout the High Holy Days). The celebration is that much more festive now that everyone has gotten to know each other better.
INSTALLATION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, November 11, 2016
Evening Service and Installation, 7:30pm
Join Rabbi Bellows, her family and special guests for her installation as our new rabbi.

Saturday, November 12, 2016
Holy Scrollers, 9:00am, led by Rabbi Bellows and guest, Rabbi Koppel
Second Saturday Service, 10:30 am
Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Koppel, Scholar in Residence, Noon
Family Heritage Food Dinner & Hootenanny Celebration 5:30pm
Join us for a Family Heritage Food and Hootenanny Celebration!

For your “entrance fee”, each family is asked to bring a dish to share from your family’s food heritage with a recipe card and a story about the recipe’s tradition/significance. The main course is a MEAT meal, and beef and chicken will be provided. Please, no dairy dishes for the main course. Dessert will be DAIRY. Families with last names A-O are asked to bring side dishes and P-Z desserts.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED by contacting Jackie McKown at jackiebowin@gmail.com.

Bring your instruments to join the hootenanny. Interested musicians, please contact Belinda Brennan at bzbct@comcast.net, Belinda will be coordinating the music for the evening.

Sunday, November 13, 2016
Kivvun Welcoming Service, followed by coffee and bagels
Artist: Dorothy Palmer

An Eye for Color

by Sarah Hornung and Rick Hornung

Perhaps Dorothy Palmer’s eye for brightly colored flowers came from a girlhood in north Hartford where she joyously rode her bike to Keeney Park and around the rose Garden in Elizabeth Park. Or maybe it was a response to her mother who owned a dress shop and always insisted on propriety, or to her step-father, one of the founding physicians of Hartford’s Mt. Sinai Hospital, who was even more formal. He always wore a suit. In a home of pleats and starched collars, lace and woolens, she wanted color, and when she left for Simmons College in Boston, she enrolled in art classes.

When she returned to Connecticut, Sis, as she would be known to friends for most of her ninety years, put art aside for fifteen years or so as she worked in her mother’s dress shop and waited with two small children for her husband, George Palmer, throughout World War II. However, in 1960, with the children in school and a new house in a quieter, less developed part of Wethersfield amid fruit orchards and meadows, wildflowers and ravines, her instincts returned. She carved out a studio space in the basement, and despite the lack of natural light and limited time to paint, she started again and never stopped.

With patience and diligence she started taking private lessons with Paul Zimmerman, at the University of Hartford. Initially she painted and drew a range of subjects taken from her life...women at the theater in the afternoons, portraits, beach scenes, outdoor markets, greenhouses, still life, and, of course, vases of flowers. One of her great strengths was her devotion to her art and her patience. She set time aside every day to work, sketching, drawing, revising, considering, reconsidering, and seeking critique.

She was rewarded for her hard work with admittance to the Connecticut Watercolor Society, the American Watercolor Society, and the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts. One by one, she submitted to juried shows and was accepted by the National Academy of Design and the Audubon Artists in New York. The Berkshire Art Association in Pittsfield and the George Water Vincent Smith Museum brought her work to Pittsfield and Springfield, Massachusetts. In Essex, Old Lyme, West Hartford, and Sharon, Connecticut, galleries asked for her work.

For the last twenty years of the twentieth century, her flowers and landscapes found their way into private collections in the United States and Europe. In 1980, her work was reviewed in La Revue Moderne. The girl who rode her bike around Keeney Park the Rose Garden in Elizabeth Park had made it to the Paris art scene, and she finally moved her studio above ground.

In her drawings and with charcoal she experimented with line, shading, crosshatching, attempting to capture color, form, and movement with her precise lines. However, it was with her transition from oil to acrylic paint that she found the medium that suited her best. Working in acrylic she was able to experiment with color and form. For many years she worked in monotones, shades of her favorite colors, and within a slightly flattened perspective. Later in life she began to experiment with the porous nature of acrylic paints, soaking watercolor paper and allowing her paints to run and blend, transforming the colors first into abstract forms and the abstract forms into, of course, flowers.

In the last years of her life, when Alzheimer’s Disease made it impossible to paint, her instincts for color, her happy response to bright colors and whatever was in bloom, remained intact. At some point, it became too late to ask her where her love of color had come from. In truth, the question doesn’t really matter. It was ingrained in her, a part of everything that she did. It was how she saw the world.

Dorothy Palmer’s paintings will be exhibited in our Main Street Gallery this December and January, Monday – Friday, 10AM – 3:30PM. Look for news of an opening reception in the CBSRZ weekly emails. It was Dr. Palmer’s wish, along with that of her daughter, Peg, and her family, that all the proceeds from the sale of Dorothy’s work be donated to Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek.
We all know the old joke. But eating is more than a joke in the Jewish world. It’s a way of identifying ourselves and linking ourselves with each other and with our past and our traditions. And it’s exactly that link with the past — and with each other — that the new Adult Education Program, Noshing Our Way Through Jewish History, is exploring.

Beginning this December, with our Kutnick Scholar-in-Residence weekend, we will be traveling — in time and space — the Jewish world from its beginnings until now, in all the disparate places that Jews have lived — and discovering not just the foods that have emerged but the circumstances and cultures that shaped those foods. And we will learn by doing — not just sampling the results but creating at least some of those foods that we will then consume.

Our Kutnick Scholar, the wonderful Tina Wasserman, will start all this off by putting us through our paces on the weekend of December 16 through 18. Author of *Entrée to Judaism: A Culinary Exploration of the Jewish Diaspora*, Tina is not only a best-selling author but a scholar and teacher. What better person to start us on our journey through Jewish cuisine?

On Friday night, we will feature some of Tina’s wonderful recipes in our oneg offerings, and Tina will, of course, be participating in the service.

Saturday, after Scrolls, Tina will preside over a Lunch & Learn where she will be introducing us all to the incredible Variety of Jewish Culinary Experiences.

Saturday evening, there will be a session, limited to 50 participants, with a hands-on cooking experience. And Sunday she will be working with the kids at Kivun.

Her cookbooks will be available for purchase (and autograph) Saturday evening and Sunday, with a percentage of every sale going to CBSRZ. People who wish to sign up and pay in advance can pick up their copies at any time during the weekend.

Tina’s focus on world-wide Jewish cooking and her understanding of the origins and circumstances that produced it in each place will be the perfect starting-off point for our series, which will then take us back through history, geography and culture to give us a mouth-watering introduction to the infinite variety of Jewish food.

After Tina’s weekend, which gets us off to a running start, we are going to be looking, this year, at a variety of historical periods in Jewish history and the cooking that emerged from those: Biblical and ‘ancient’ Jewish society; medieval Jewish society in France, Germany and, eventually, Eastern Europe — the origin of so much Ashkenazi cookery; Medieval and Renaissance Spanish Society — the origin of so much Sephardic cookery. We will delve into the circumstances that existed at the time and the cooking that resulted and will produce some of the foods at each session.

In future sessions, in the year 5778, or 2017-2018 if you prefer, we will then break down the different cuisines as they developed in different parts of the world, from Europe through the Middle East, India, and Africa, and into the Americas as well.

So if you love to eat, love to cook, love to learn — plan to be part of Noshing Our Way Through Jewish History. Come to our sessions — and if you’re so inclined, join us in the planning of this enterprise. Share your expertise — historical, cultural, culinary — with us and be part of our team. We’re looking for your knowledge of the periods and cultures, for facts, stories, recipes. Get in touch with Jackie McKown (jackiebowin@gmail.com) and/or Ellen Nodelman (ellenmodelman@gmail.com) and we’ll put your knowledge to work!
With the holidays behind us, Kivvun remains very active throughout the months of November and December. Please feel welcome to join us at any of our upcoming events.

On Sunday November 13, the final day of the Rabbi’s installation weekend, parents, teachers and students will formally welcome Rabbi Bellows as our educator. We will have a brief ceremony welcoming the Rabbi into our Kivvun family. To conclude the morning we will enjoy a nosh filled with bagels and other nosh-like items provided by the education committee.

The month of December at Kivvun ends with the start of Hanukkah. On December 18, we will have our annual family Hanukkah program. Throughout the morning we will sing traditional songs (my absolute favorite is “I am a Latke”) and those interested will have the opportunity to make holiday-related crafts they can present as gifts or simply use themselves. And of course, no celebration at CBSRZ is complete without food. In the past, we’ve had latkes, bimuelos, sufganiot and other traditional delights. This year, our Hanukkah program coincides with our Scholar-in-Residence weekend. Tina Wasserman, a best selling author, scholar, teacher and chef will present a program to our students. Come to the celebration and see what we have to offer.

Additionally on December 18, we have a representative from the URJ to discuss Camp Life at Crane Lake and Camp Eisner. As always, please feel welcome to invite a non-affiliated friend or family to any of our events.

Thank you,
Karen Burzin
Education Chairperson

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Bar Mitzvah of
Benjamin
Rosenblum-Jones

What excites you the most about your Bar Mitzvah?
What excites me the most about my bar mitzvah is that all of my family and friends are going to be in one place at one time and I will be able to see all of them.

What does becoming a Bar Mitzvah mean to you?
To me it means I am finally becoming an adult in the Jewish world, and I am soon to be one in my other world too.

Have you thought at all about your Torah portion? Any thoughts on what you will be discussing?
My Torah portion is vayera. I will be discussing about how you could stand up to authorities if you know it’s the right thing to do.

Have you done a mitzvah project? (if not, what are you thinking about doing?)
I am going to be volunteering at an adoption event called dog days, and I am going to be helping rescues find their forever home.

Any advice for kids who haven’t begun preparing?
Some advice from me is that even though it is hard and you will probably want to quit at times, after it’s all over it is going to be worth it.

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Happy Birthday! Yom Huledet Sameach!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Infeld</td>
<td>November 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Brennan</td>
<td>November 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Conley</td>
<td>November 15</td>
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<td>Morgan Corpuel</td>
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<td>Rachel Cohen</td>
<td>December 7</td>
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<td>Jeremy Evans</td>
<td>December 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annika Liss</td>
<td>December 18</td>
</tr>
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</table>

11
Rabbi Bellows and Cantor Belinda at the Bima laden with food for the High Holy Days Shoreline Soup Kitchen Drive.

Hard at work framing the Sukkah. Construction crew: Rick Hornung, Laura Roman, and Joel & Marcy Saltzman.
Our September/October Main Street Exhibit: Stratford Sculptor and educator Philip Levine discusses his beautiful, haunting and thought-provoking works of “visual theology.”
Procession to Chester Ferry for Kivvun Taschlich.

Rabbi Bellows and Cantor Belinda on the Chester ferry during Taschlich.

Rick Hornung doles out cracked corn to congregants boarding the Chester ferry for Taschlich.

Hanging out in front of the ferry on a beautiful day for Taschlich.
The Adult Ed Committee with help from Rabbis Goldenberg and Bellows presented a three-part series on Islam this September. The large audience turnout reflected the broader community’s high level of interest in gaining a deeper understanding of the beliefs and practices of Islam.

Dr. Aida Mansoor, President of the Muslim Coalition of CT, gives an overview of the tenets, values, and practices of Islam, looking at the role of women.

Drs. Aida and Reza Mansoor present a copy of the Holy Qur’an to Rabbi Bellows as Ellen Nodelman, Chair of Adult Ed Committee and Andy Schatz, Chair of Social Action Committee, look on.
Religious Affairs At CBSRZ

Chanukah Shabbat Service and Celebration

Join us as we celebrate Shabbat and the seventh night of Chanukah! At 5:45 pm we will have a NON-DAIRY pot luck dinner. CBSRZ will provide brisket, latkes and beverages. We ask that those coming for dinner bring a meat dish (please refer to kashrut policy), or other non-dairy side dishes (salads, latkes, vegetables, rice or a dessert to be served at Oneg). Services will begin at 7:00. Please bring your favorite menorah and 8 candles as we will continue our tradition of lighting all of the menorahs and basking in the glow of the candle light. Oneg will follow services.

Torah Readers Needed

We are continuing our tradition of having Torah services on the Second Saturday of the month, beginning in November and running through June. The Torah portions are read or chanted by congregants, in other words, lay readers. Perfection is not required! If you are able to read Hebrew and would like to participate in this most holy of mitzvahs, please contact our Religious Affairs Chairperson, Laura Roman at landdroman@gmail.com. We will make sure that you have all of the tools and training that you need.

Interfaith Thanksgiving

The Valley-Shore Clergy Association is being held at St. Lawrence Church, 7 Hemlock Drive, Killingworth, CT on Sunday, November 20 at 4pm. This hour-long service will combine with the joint choirs of the area churches and temple to create beautiful music together, and the clergy members will each have a part in leading the service. The service will be followed by food and fellowship. All are welcome, regardless of faith.
High Holiday Food Drive First of Many Actions to Fight Hunger This Year

“Year after year, Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek has shown its caring in so many ways,” said Patty Dowling, Executive Director of Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries, “and the success of the annual food drive is so welcome by so many in need in our communities.” SSKP once again delivered a truckload of food to SSKP following the collection over the High Holy Days; this year, the Social Action Committee was also able to deliver some of the food to the Chesed Committee for distribution to congregants whose addresses render them unable to participate in SSKP or other food pantries.

Debby T rautmann, who supervises hunger projects for the Social Action Committee and directly supervised the food drive again this year, called attention to the many volunteers whose work resulted in the success, including the CBSRZ board of directors for providing the inspirational collection of food on the bima, Sandy Seidman and the Safety Zone for again providing a truck to deliver the food, Johanna Schaefer, Teri Fogel and Corinne Weber for helping assemble the bags and instructions for the food, Emily Merriam (and her son, Phin), Johanna Schaefer, Rita Fink and Andy Schatz for handing out the bags following Rosh Hashanah services, and Jack Conley, Bryce Connelly, Morgan Corpuel, Alex Infeld, Noa Kleinberg, Ben Mercier and Joe Mercier for collecting the food and loading the truck on Yom Kippur.

“But most importantly, success would never have been possible without the participation of the whole congregation donating an amazing amount of food for those in need,” Debby noted. “Thank you all.”

Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries received over 2000 pounds of food from CBSRZ’s High Holy Day food drive for the fifth year in a row.

In addition, Johanna Schaefer put together a flyer also handed out following Rosh Hashanah services that let congregants know of the many other social action activities for the coming year, including the many meal sites and other food drives organized by the Social Action Committee. These will include:

Continued on page 18
Social Action Committee News  Continued from page 17

• Food collection boxes throughout the year in the boxes at CBSRZ
• Give even a few hours a year to help staff our community meal sites (soup kitchens) in Deep River on December 8 or February 23 or Chester on February 5, April 16 (Easter dinner) or June 11 or at a special effort to help on December 25 in Old Saybrook. To lend a hand or get more information on any of these events please contact Debby Trautmann at (debytrautmann@comcast.net).
• Help our religious school kids with their effort to “Stuff a Truck” on April 23

Please contact debbytrautmann@comcast.net for more information or to help.

CBSRZ Congregants Trained for ALICE Events

ALICE (an acronym for “asset-limited, income-constrained, employed”) is “our kid’s teacher, our handyman or plumber, the cop or fireman in our town, some of our congregants,” said Lynn Coville, a member of the Social Action Committee who organized an August 24 training session about working with ALICE in our communities. About 15 congregants, including members of the Social Action Committee, were trained to lead discussions and events, which resulted from.

ALICE resulted from a research study sponsored by United Way that identified true costs of sustainability in communities throughout the United States. The study, which has now been broken down to individual regions and towns within Connecticut, shows a shockingly high level of families barely getting by. For example, although only 5% of families in Middlesex County are below the federal poverty line (about $24,000 for a family of four), ALICE includes an additional 20% of all Middlesex households. And some towns are in even worse shape – fewer than 4% of Westbrook’s families are below the poverty line, but another 30% are ALICE (or 34% total), second only to Middletown, where 36% of families are under the ALICE line. These are struggling families, often without the services provided to those below the poverty line, whose sustainability is threatened by any disruption in employment, childcare or health.

ALICE is now represented visually by a metallic cut out of a woman’s head and hair that is carried to community events at which ALICE is discussed – or just brought to remind everyone of “her” presence in our communities. Claire Bellerjeau, the Outreach and Development Director at the Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries, who provided the ALICE training, noted that anthropomorphizing ALICE in this way makes it more human than simply talking about the “working poor.” Bellerjeau gives out note cards on which are written true local ALICE stories that help people realize that the struggle ALICE faces daily, and she collects from many people ALICE stories of their own lives or those close to them, which she can use in later sessions.

Coville looks to take the message of ALICE to more families and kids at CBSRZ. “We think it is so important to recognize and understand how many of our friends – people we know and deal with every day of our lives – are struggling to get by.” Andy Schatz, chair of social action at CBSRZ, praised Coville’s focus and action on the ALICE project: “Lynn has really focused on the ALICE project and made it a regular part of our consideration in social action activities.”

Schatz, who has also served on the Shoreline Basic Needs Task Force since its start in 2013, where he has been joined by Coville and others from SAC, noted that ALICE is now getting much deserved attention from those in positions of influence. “That ALICE not only became a focus of policy discussions at a recent candidates’ forum but of Rabbi Bellows’ Yom Kippur morning sermon speaks volumes. The Task Force goal was to simply get the word out in 2016 and seek action in 2017, so I look forward to what we can accomplish in the year to come.”

Learn more about ALICE by checking out the Shoreline Basic Needs Task Force at http://shorelinesoupkitchens.org/news/shoreline-basic-needs-task-force or visiting the Facebook page for “ALICE on the Shoreline.”

Social Action Schedule for 2016-17

November 6 - Books & Bagels
inspiring social action - Cindy Brown
Austin and stories from the streets of Hartford (9:30-11:30am)
December 8 - Deep River meal site
(4-6pm)
December 9 - Human Rights Shabbat
(7-9pm)
December 12 - Blood Drive (1-6pm)
December 25 - Old Saybrook special
Christmas meal site (2-3pm)
January 13 - MLK Shabbat human
rights discussion
February 5 - Chester meal site (4-6pm)
February 23 - Deep River meal Site
(4-6pm)
March 8 - Legislative Forum (7-9pm)
March 28, 29 - Legislative Advocacy at
Warm Clothing Needed for Kids in Need

It’s hard enough to succeed in elementary school in Hartford – how hard would it be without warm clothes in winter? Damarys Padillo thanked CBSRZ for making sure her kids didn’t have to find out.

For the past four years, CBSRZ members have donated clothes for the students of Parkville Community School, a public school of 535 pre-K to fifth graders located in the south end of Hartford. The students need warm jackets and coats for the fall and winter (hats, scarves and mittens would also be appreciated).

“The school population is multi-cultural, mostly Hispanic, and 99% of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch” said Sandy Herzog, who has organized each of these annual drives and has taught at Parkville and other Hartford-area schools for many years. “Many of the parents work more than one job to help to put food on the table, and some even work at low-paying fast food restaurants for the food benefits.”

Andy Schatz, chair of the Social Action Committee, which is sponsoring this year’s drive, highlighted Sandy’s efforts as an example of how one person can make such a difference in so many lives. “Sandy was not only touched by the needs of these kids but has worked year after year to address them. It’s taken the generosity of many within our CBSRZ community to make these clothing drives a success, but none of that would have happened without Sandy’s initiative and hard work. We are so pleased to welcome Sandy to our social action committee and hope to work with her to make the drive an even bigger success.”

SAC Seeks Congregant Input For Legislative Advocacy in March

The Social Action Committee will be holding a legislative forum at CBSRZ on March 8 and legislative advocacy sessions at the State Capitol in Hartford on March 28 and 29. As in past years, SAC will be assisting congregants in efforts to lobby for some social action priorities, which this year include basic needs (hunger and housing), healthcare (particularly mental health initiatives), criminal justice and prison reform, environmental issues and embracing diversity. However, the specific issues and bills that will be the subject of the legislative advocacy are still open to discussion, and SAC welcomes views of congregants.

“We know of some issues that will be critical in the upcoming session, including prison reform issues such as solitary confinement,” said Andy Schatz, chair of the Social Action Committee, “but we welcome congregant input on other issues to add to our agenda.” Schatz pointed out that the Connecticut legislative action is generally broader in odd-numbered years, not only by constitutional mandate but the political realities of addressing tough issues when legislators are up for re-election. “And with the good chance that Governor Malloy may not be here much longer, the upcoming session may be the best shot at firming up progressive policies and making sure they have the force of statute.”

Schatz noted that this may be particularly true of the issue of solitary confinement.

“Solitary confinement has been used too easily in many states, and while there is now a real effort within the Connecticut prison system to limit its use, that should be firmed up in law to prevent abuse in the future. We have been addressing this issue for years, having had forums and speakers at CBSRZ, and it has been a major focus of Tr’uah, the Rabbinic Call for Human Rights. Rabbi Bellows, like Rabbi Goldenberg before her, is a strong proponent of reducing the use of solitary confinement.”

There will be proposed legislation in other areas of interest as well. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), with which SAC has worked in past years on legislative efforts, expects again to have a legislative agenda, and SAC’s work with the Shoreline Basic Needs Task Force and its ALICE project (see accompanying article) is looking at possible legislation to support the many in our communities who are working hard but barely making ends meet. “We are potentially in a position to address many issues effectively due to the incredible geographic reach of the CBSRZ community – represented by so many legislators throughout so much of the state,” Schatz commented, “so we look for input from as many in the congregation as possible, and we hope that many will join us in March.”

SAC will be meeting in November, after the election. Please contact andy@andrewschatz.com.

CBSRZ Asked For Special Help With Community Meal Site on Christmas Day

Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries has specially asked CBSRZ to provide necessary help cleaning up after the Christmas dinner on December 25 at Grace Episcopal Church, 336 Main Street, Old Saybrook. Clean-up is at 2pm following a meal at 1pm, at which we are welcome to eat with the guests, as we do with our regular meal sites. Set up and cooking is being done by others. Please contact debbytrautmann@comcast.net by November 7 to volunteer.

The Social Action Committee of CBSRZ sponsors quarterly meal sites in Deep River and Chester and starting last year has added an extra meal site in Chester on Easter Sunday.
Howard’s Bread OPEN

Pauline Kaplan has opened a retail outlet for Howard's Bread at Spencer’s Corner in Centerbrook. In addition to her fabulous bread, she is offering delectable sandwiches and tempting pastries.

MAZEL TOV!

Mazel tov to Doreen and Jon Joslow on the marriage of their Daughter Rebecca Joslow to Justin MacGregor on October 15.

Closer to Free Ride

On Saturday, September 10 some of our own CBSRZ members along with 1450 others cycled in the Closer to Free Ride to raise money for the Smilow Cancer Center.

Attending from CBSRZ were Rick Hornung, Dave Fogel and Harvey Payton. They were accompanied by Rabbi Daniel Price and Stephen Cremin-Endes. Harvey notes: “We rode 100 miles from New Haven through Middlesex County to Chester then along the shoreline back to New Haven. Collectively we raised over $4,000 for this event. We rode for the cause of curing cancer but especially all our friends, family, colleagues who have been affected by the disease.”
Memorial Plaques
Tishrei 30, 5777 to Heshvan 29, 5777

Daniel Alan Altman
Leo Amoarant
Bella Astrove
Samuel Banner
Harry Baron
Isaac Baron
Issodore Baron
Rose Baron
Abram Baskin
Celia Baum
Sylvia Beckerman
William Becker
Celia Benson
Nathan Benson
Victoria Bernstein
Philip Berwick
Abraham BLEicher
Mendel Bloch
Marie Cossen
Sam Chiat
Etta Cohn
Aaron Diamond
Lee Diamond
Samuel Elkin
Annette Farber Rechtschafer
Nathan Fink
Hyman Fink
Jerome Fischbach
Arthur Frank
Max Frankel
Bertram Friedman
Elizabeth Friedman
Solomon Ginsberg
George Glassman
Norma Glassman
Edward Glazer
Albert Gottlieb
Lawrence Gottfried
Charles Gottfried
Nathan Gottlieb
Benjamin Granberg
Jane White Gwillin
Leonora Hays
Michel Housen Hessel
Jack Hyman
Rachel Ickovics
Dr. Maurice Jacobs
David Joslow
Erwin Kahn
Rose Kalet
Regina Kest
Patricia Konecky
Samuel Laties
Jacob Lake
Lena Lake
Lloyd Levin
David Levine
Steve Levinson
Bernard LeWitt
Bethie LeWitt
Marie Lopez
Nathan Luchnic
Morris Mackover
Joseph Mager
David Miller
Emma Oppenheimer
Sadie Palmer
Libby Peck
Paul Peck
Harriet Pepper
Sylvia Price
Issodore Raab
Marvin Radom

Dorothy Rubin
Rita Ruzansky
Rita Rosensky
George Saffir
Gertrude Case Sandler
Rabbi Alexander Schinder
Sarah Saltz
Lucille Schur
Frances Seidman
Sadie Case Sharp
James Shipulski
Sarah Sigal
Herbert Small
Louis Steinberg
Irving Strom
Sam Tilles
Leonard Palmer Tobias
Milton Weintraub
Sarah Rosoff Yassoloff
Harry Zack
Sarah Zomback

Memorial Plaques
Kislev 1, 5777 to Tevet 2, 5777

Samuel Adler
Harry Archambault
Sylvia Baker
Jack Banner
Bunie Baron
Esther Baron
Jack Baron
Pearl wasser Bass
Rosella Berkon
April Lee Bloch
Celia Bronstein
Harris Breslow
Barbara Bruno
Donald Coville
Harry Debowsky

Isadore Elson
Hyman Farber
Frances Fine
Dora Fink
Erwin Fischer
Nathan Fagan
Jack Freed
Helen Friedman
Rachel Friedman
Rachel Friend
Florence Gage
Barry Gilman
Charles Glassenberg
Harry Glazer
Arthur Goldberg
Adeline Barbara Goodman
Richard Hays
Victor Heller
Marcus Hoberman
Eileen M. Ilberman
Hanna Issner
Benjamin Jackoway
Miriam Jacobson
Paul Jaffe
Bernard Kalet
Joseph Katz
Miriam Klar
Florence Klein
Leonard Klein
Avraham Kolomos
William Kotchen
Henry Krapmell
Elyse Krisolofsky
Vivian Laates
Michael Levy
Rosamond LeWitt
Jessie Lindenman

Condolences are extended to:
Andrey Freeman, on the loss of his mother Hudes Freeman
Rita Fink, on the loss of her nephew, Ted Bukofsky

REMEMBRANCE

Tishrei 30, 5777 to Heshvan 29, 5777

Leo Amoarant - father of George Amoarant
Abraham Baskin - stepfather of Linda Fink
Sylvia Beckerman - mother of Barbara Beckerman
William Beckerman - father of Barbara Beckerman
Mendel Bloch - grandfather of Michael Crair
Marie Cossen - mother of Lois Nadel
Etta Cohn - grandmother of Gail Feld
Lee Diamond - father of Barbara Mason
Annette Farber Rechtschafer - sister of Beverly Glassman
Nathan Fink - father of Hyman Fink
Hyman Fink - husband of Rita Fink
Jerome Fischbach - father of Nancy Fischbach
George Glassman - father of Ron Glassman and Rich Glassman
Norma Glassman - mother of Ron Glassman and Rich Glassman
Edward Glazer - husband of Lois Glazer
Alfred Goller - father of Ethel Goller
Lawrence Gottfried - father of Ellen Gottfried
Nathan Gottlieb - father of Henry Gottlieb
Benjamin Greenberg - father of Penny Robiner
Jane White Gwillin - mother of Lizary Bloom
Leonora Hays - wife of David Hays
Milton Braun Hessel - father of Laura Hessel
Jack Hyman - grandfather of Stephen Davis
Rachel Ickovics - mother of Jeannette Ickovics
Dr. Maurice Jacobs - father of Stephen Jacobs
David Joslow - father of Jon Joslow and Liz Kaplan
Erwin Kahn - uncle of Linda Sherman
Rose Kalet - mother of Gene Kalet
Regina Kest - sister of Gene Kalet
Patricia Konecky - mother of Scott Konecky
Samuel Laties - father of Alan Laties
Lloyd Levin - father of Stephanie Arbige
Steve Levinson - brother-in-law of Nancy Fischbach
Marie Lopez - mother of Juan Carlos Lopez
Nathan Luchnic - father of Lois Glazer
Joseph Magid - brother of Estelle Breslow
David Miller - father of Ellen Friedman
Libby Peck - mother of Michael Peck
Paul Peck - father of Michael Peck
Harrie Benger - brother of Andi Pepper Jacobs
Sylvia Price - mother of Michael Price
Marvin Radom - father of Debra Landrey
Dorothy Rubin - mother of Matthew Rubin

Rita Ruzansky - mother of Susan Bush
George Saffir - grandfather of Ron Glassman and Rich Glassman
Gertrude Case Sandler - sister of Lewis Case
Rabbi Alexander Schinder - father of Debra Trautmann
Frances Seidman - mother of Sandy Seidman
Sadie Case Sharp - sister of Lewis Case
James Shipulski - relative of David and Trina Shilling
Sarah Sigal - grandfather of Peggy Palmer
Herbert Small - grandson of Lisa Connelly
Sam Tilles - son of David Tilles and grandson of Solomon Tilles
Milton Weintraub - uncle of Marcy Saltzman
Harry Zack - father of Sylvia Zuck
Sarah Zomback - mother of Beth Brewer

Yahrzeits
Kislev 1, 5777 to Tevet 2, 5777

Samuel Adler - father of Jacqueline Michael
Harry Archambault - father of Ray Archambault
Sylvia Baker - mother of Stuart Baker
Pearl Wasser Bass - brother of Susan Fine
Rosella Berkon - mother of Rebecca Blake
April Lee Bloch - cousin of Emma Gonzalez-Lesser
Celia Bronstein - granddaughter of Natalie Lindstrom
Barbara Bruno - sister of David Bruno
Donald Coville - uncle of Ron Coville
Hyman Farber - father of Beverly Glassman
Frances Fine - father of Philip Fine
Dora Fink - mother of Hyman
Erwin Fischer - grandfather of Rick Honnberg
Helen Friedman - sister of Estelle Breslow
Rachel Friend - granddaughter of Sheila Friend and Byron
Barry Gilman - cousin of Ellen Gottfried
Helen Gilman-aunt of Ellen Gottfried
Nathan Gansberg - grandson of Albert Glassenberg
Arthur Goldstein - father of Harvey Goldstein
Adeline Barbara Goodman - sister of Linda Polonoski
Richard Hays - brother of David Hays
Victor Heller - father of Betty Gilman
Marvin Hoberman - brother of Harvey Hoberman
Eileen M. Ilberman - wife of Barry Ilberman
Hanna Issner - great-grandmother of Janet Sharr
Gochberg and grandmother of Marlene Scharr

Benjamin Jackoway - father of Rita Fink
Miriam Jacobson - brother of Bath Laates
Bernard Kalet - brother of Gene Kalet
Miriam Klar - sister of Iriss Katz
Florence Klein - stepmother of Maxim Klein
Leonard Klein - father of Maxim Klein
Avraham Kolomos - son of Audrey Klein
Henry Krapmell - sister of Henry Krapmell
Elyse Krisolofsky - aunt of Rabbi Marci Bellows
Vivian Laates - mother of Alan Laates
Michael Levy - father of Hadass Rubin
Rosamond LeWitt - mother of James Cohen
Jessie Lindenman - grandmother of Seth Lindeman
Ann Marcus - mother of Natalie Lindstrom and grandmother of Lauren Gifter
Beverly Gilman McCaffrey - cousin of Ellen Gottfried
Sol Meller - father of Tracy Kleinberg
Eileen Moran - sister of Donna Amoarant
Dr. Tage Nielsen - father of Daphine Raab
Edwin Perlstein - father of Mitch Perlstein
Rubin Peck Ruben - beloved parent of Michael Peck
Maxine Schaefer - sister-in-law of Johanna Schaefer
Elizer Schindler - grandfather of Debra Trautmann
Salti Schindler - grandfather of Debra Trautmann
Georganne Schreperman - mother of Lisaanne Kaplan
Lillian Shafiel - mother of Maxine Leichtman
Marc Sherman - brother of Linda Fink
Frances Siegel - grandmother of James Cohen
Esther Smith - mother of Susan Furrman and Martin Smith
Priscilla Sabrino - grandmother of Bianca Gonzalez-Loesser
Sol Stolow - grandfather of Ethel Goller
Justine V. Tobis - mother of Justin Redak
Reverend Robert Trautmann - father of Robert Trautmann
Silvia White - mother-in-law of Marilyn White-Gottfried
Olive Wright - father of Doris Helbing
Yvonne Young - wife of Robert and Debra Trautmann

Please remember to inform Linda Sherman, chair of the Chessed Committee, if you or someone you know is ill, in need of help, or has experienced a death in the family...

...Our Chessed Committee is here to help.
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<td>9:30 am Books &amp; Bagels with Cindy Brown Austin</td>
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<td>10:30 am Shabbat service and bar mitzvah of Ben Rosenblum-Jones</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Executive Committee</td>
<td>5:45 pm Tot Shabbat</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<td>8:00 am Morning Minyan</td>
<td>4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Deep River Meal Site</td>
<td>5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am - 10:15 am Hatchala (Birth to 4 Years)</td>
<td>5:30 pm Facilities Meeting</td>
<td><strong>7 KISLEV</strong></td>
<td><strong>8 KISLEV</strong></td>
<td>7:00 pm Board of Directors</td>
<td><strong>9 KISLEV</strong></td>
<td>5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service - Human Rights Shabbat</td>
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<td>No Kadima - come instead on 12/10</td>
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<td>Hanukkah Program Scholar-in-Residence Weekend 9:30 am - 10:15 am Hatchala (Birth to 4 Years) 9:30 am - 12:00 pm Kadima (Gr K-7) 9:30 am - 1:00 pm Makom (Gr 10) 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Gesher (Gr 9-6)</td>
<td><strong>19 KISLEV</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 pm Choir</td>
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<td>No Kivvun</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Old Saybrook special Christmas meal site</td>
<td><strong>27 KISLEV</strong></td>
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</table>
Many thanks to these recent Oneg sponsors

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