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January & February 2017

3 Tevet – 2 Adar

Joseph Interpreting the Dreams of Pharaoh, attributed to Jörg Breu the younger, c. 1534-1547, Metropolitan Museum of Art. (Wikimedia Commons)
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Happy 2017! I hope this new secular year brings you and your family much joy and gladness. As I reflect on the areas of my life that have always brought me the most happiness, some of the best experiences took place my years at camp. And, in the midst of the chill of winter, it is so nice to look forward to the joys of summer.

In junior high and high school, I spent a number of years at Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI), a Reform Jewish overnight camp in Oconomowoc, WI. These years were both formative and transformative — I truly became myself there. I was surrounded by incredible, warm, and positive staff and campers. The days were filled with arts, learning, Hebrew, services, sports, and music. Nights were filled with games, programs, campfires, and song sessions. Perhaps most importantly, we experienced what it was like to be Jewish all day, and to look at the world around us with a Jewish lens.

Judaism was something fun at camp, it was something that tied us all together, and it was the source of wonderful teachings and traditions. Every two weeks, a different set of rabbis, cantors, and Jewish educators spent time with us — we got to see them in much less formal settings, and see what wonderful human beings they were. Many of our counselors even went on to become clergy in subsequent years. I credit my years at OSRUI with much of my ultimate decision to become a rabbi.

One of my priorities in my rabbinate was to return to camp as a faculty member. I feel very fortunate that Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek has supported my wish to spend two weeks each summer at one of our regional Union for Reform Judaism camps: Eisner, Crane Lake, or 6 Points Sci-Tech. It is truly an honor to now be one of those camp rabbis who can influence the next generation of Jewish leaders.

Recent studies from the Foundation for Jewish Camp (http://www.jewishcamp.org/) have found fascinating connections between families that send their children to camp and their involvement in Jewish life. They discovered: 1) parents of camp kids remained temple members longer, 2) kids who went to camp were more likely to stay in religious school post-B’nai Mitzvah, and 3) the entire family was more likely to be involved in temple life and leadership.

Last summer, CBSRZ sent 10 kids to a URJ Camp. We were awarded a “Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Support” based on how high a proportion of our kids attend camp. I would love to see these numbers grow in the coming years. There are a number of exciting renovations going on at each camp, including a number of new cabins and facilities.

Understandably, financial concerns can often be a reason that families do not consider going to an overnight camp. Eisner and Crane Lake typically award more than $400,000 in scholarships last year, and are looking forward to doing it again. Additionally, it is important to CBSRZ that we support our campers, and thus we have a generous camp scholarship fund, in addition to funds available from my Discretionary Fund. We want as many of our kids as possible to experience the magic of URJ Camps.

So, what should you do? I ask for a few things:

• Seriously consider sending your school-age children or grandchildren to one of our URJ Camps. Help create the next generation of involved, educated, passionate Jews!
• Visit their websites for more information, or come speak with me with your questions:
  • Crane Lake Camp: https://cranelakecamp.org/
  • Eisner Camp: http://www.eisnercamp.org/
  • 6 Points Sci-Tech: https://6pointssttech.org/
• Donate generously to the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund with the intent of providing scholarships to our students who attend URJ Camps.

Best wishes for a good 2017,
— Rabbi Marci Bellows
Religious Affairs At CBSRZ

NEW TIME FOR RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Religious Affairs (“RAC”) has moved to a new time! For many, many years, RAC has met on the first Wednesday morning of the month at 8:45. 2017 is bringing that tradition to an end. We will now be meeting on Thursday evenings at 7:00. Our first meeting under this new time schedule will be Thurs., January 12. If you have any interest in getting involved in the holidays that we observe, please contact Laura Roman, landdroman@gmail.com. We hope this new time will allow more of our congregants to participate in this very important committee.

One of RAC’s responsibilities is to find both Torah readers for our Second Saturday services and congregants to deliver the D’Var Torah at lay led Friday night services. If you are interested in reading/chanting Torah or delivering the D’Var Torah, please let us know. Help is available for both of these mitzvahs.

IT’S A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR TREES!

In Israel, Tu B’Shevat, the Birthday for Trees, is celebrated at the time of year when, drawn from the roots by the warmth of the sun, sap starts running up the trees, just under the bark, carrying nutrients to the branches. In appreciation of the gifts given us by trees, we hold a seder during which we celebrate this return of life, the promise of a fruitful year. It is a treat to the senses. We celebrate with typical Israeli fruits and nuts, juices and wines which are exquisite and varied in color, taste, aroma and texture. The fruits have strong skins we must peel or break, stones we do not swallow, and there are those that we can eat in their entirety. The tastes, the blessings, the narratives, the songs, the company we share at this seder table bring us joy in themselves as well as in anticipation of the coming spring.

The Tu B’Shevat seder program will begin at 11:00 on Sunday, February 12th and last approximately 1-1/2 hour. All congregants are welcome and encouraged to participate. Kivvun families will be supplying many of the delicious fruits and nuts. If you would like to help with the slicing and plating of the fruits and nuts and getting the table ready for the seder, please contact Liz Jones at sagenbasil@aol.com or (860) 391-3561. More detailed information will be included in the Weekly E-mails.

PURIM

Purim….already? By the time you get this issue of The Whole Megillah, Purim will be only 2 months away! Our celebration of Purim will be on Saturday, March 11, 7:00. We are looking for people who like to throw a good party to help plan this one…..decorations, food (think triangle), drinks (think jello shots). We are also looking for people who like to get silly….Rabbi Bellows will have the script, we just need the characters. No memorization or acting skills needed….just chutzpah! Please contact Laura Roman (landdroman@gmail.com) if you can help with party planning or being in the spiel.
In his second season as our Music & More producer, David Zeleznik faced an unusual problem — what he calls “an embarrassment of artistic riches.”

Back when our congregation inaugurated this cultural series nine years ago, it was not easy to lure top-rated talent to our space. But as the years passed, and word got around in cultural circles of the rewards of playing at CBSRZ, the problem seemed to solve itself.

For example, the international pianist Mihae Lee, who has played in many of the world’s great concert halls, told us that in our acoustically perfect sanctuary, “For the first time in my life I could hear the silence between the notes.” Saxophonist Paul Winter, the legendary musical ecologist who also has an international resume, wrote a thank-you note to David after he and his band attracted a huge audience, “We all loved the experience of being at the Synagogue, and my colleagues and I much enjoyed playing in that magnificent space. And of course we were gratified by the audience response, and the kind comments many people made to us after the concert. Many thanks to you, and to Miriam Gardner-Frum, for your superb and professional promotion and presentation of the event, and for your hospitality. We felt very much at home.”

There were many other such stories that contributed to the synagogue’s growing reputation as a regional cultural center. Hence, musicians began to contact us.

As David says, “Now we have a growing backlog of artists that actively seek us out to perform here. This has allowed me, for season 9, to bring in a big bold mix- classical, jazz, youth oriented, soul, etc. where hopefully at least one concert will strike a chord (pun intended)

Continued on page 6
with congregants and based on their positive experience at our shows they will be tempted to sample one of our other offerings."

To that end, the series will offer for the first time a subscription series that provides a 15 percent discount on individual ticket prices, already reduced for congregation members. For more on that, see below.

But now, the spotlight: an array of magnificent performers that would be the envy of any cultural series.

The season begins at 5 p.m., Sunday, February 5, with Kathy Kosins, the jazz singer who has performed throughout Europe as well as Tan-
glewood in the Berkshires, the
iconic Blue Note in New York City
and the Newport Jazz Festival. In
all, her work is not easily catego-
ized. For example her 2016 album
release is titled “Uncovered Soul”
and includes tunes by well-known
artists like Curtis Mayfield, The Nev-
ille Brothers, and Bill Withers, along
with three originals of her own.

You can get a whiff of Kathy’s
remarkable song stylings on
YouTube (https://www.youtube.
com/watch?v=hBhNwwTqZ4w).

This will be her only Connecticut
appearance this year. She will be
accompanied by Earl MacDonald,
the celebrated jazz pianist who is
Director of Jazz Studies at UConn
and composer in residence at the
Hartford Jazz Society.

David says about our second con-
cert, on Sunday, March 19, “The
Maccabeats are the viral video sen-
sation from the heart of Brooklyn.
An a cappella group that started at
Yeshiva University with incredibly
hunky young men, terrific voices,
and a good dose of humor that is the
closest thing to a Jewish youth sen-
sation these days. And adults should
not feel left out, these guys are just
plain fun and joyous. If you have not
seen any of their music videos yet,
stop reading this and go to YouTube
right now! (https://www.youtube.
com/user/MaccabeatsVideos).

The first time that classical pian-
ist Dalia Lazar performed for us in
2013, in advance of concert appear-
ances in Europe, she made certain
to involve the local community in a
way no performer had ever before.
Her entire outfit – the shimmery sil-
ver dress and the jewelry she wore
came from Chester merchants and
artisans. All of the merchants came
to applaud the way Dalia plays the
classics with warmth and singular
interpretation.

She has received such international
acclaim by critics. “Such noble
playing,” (Yediot Achronot, Tel
Aviv), “un sentimento profundo”
(Panorama, Venezuela), “virtuo-
sismo y impecable fraseo” (El
Nacional, Venezuela), “that rare
combination of charisma, person-
ality and terrific pianistic facility”
(pianist Tzimon Barto), and “... an inspi-
ring display of musical excellence” (Daily Republic).

But you’ll see this all for yourself
when she performs Beethoven
sonatas for us on Sunday, April
30.

Our final concert, as always, will
be free and outdoors, a chance
for the family of CBSRZ and the
community at large to come
together to enjoy the early sum-
mer weather, a picnic, and great
music.

David says about our June 25
 event, “It seems that New Haven
has become quite the incubator
for klezmer bands these days.

Thanks to the recommendation
of another set of congregation
members, I was led to discover
Bivolita Klezmer who are a young
and infectiously joyous klezmer
combo. I expect that they will
be coaxing the audience to put
down their hot dogs and veggie
burgers and join them in dance.
They are not a band to stand
on stage and play, but actively
engage with and join the audi-
ence in celebration.”

Discounted tickets for the first
two concerts for members are
$30 each and for the Dalia Lazar
concert $25 each. (Children 16
and under are admitted without
charge.) Tickets for the general
public are $5 higher than member
prices. Children 16 and under
are admitted without charge. For
more information on the concert
series, and why you shouldn’t
miss it, you can contact music-
more@cbsrz.org.
With the Kutnick Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Tina Wasserman behind us, the Adult Education Committee hopes that you are all hungry for more. With that in mind, we have four more cookery sessions in the works for this year, sessions that will continue our trip through the Jewish World in Time, Taste and Space.

Noshing Our Way Through Jewish History focuses on how “we”, the Jewish people, developed the specific foods we see as defining our culinary identity. And why those very specific foods actually vary so widely place to place, family to family.

We will begin, appropriately, at the beginning with:

*B'reshit*: In the Beginning…Biblical Times, Mores, Food & More on Sunday, February 26, 2017, from 3 to 6 in the afternoon. We will explore the food and culture of the ancient middle east and zero in on the choices of our Biblical ancestors. Once again, we will be doing a little of everything — learning about the times and the context within which Jewish food first emerged, then trying our hand at a few chosen dishes for the chosen people, and, finally, consuming, with what we hope will be delight and gusto, the results.

Our series will continue with two more trips into the past this spring, with


Our first season of Noshing Our Way through Jewish History will end with **The Great CHALLAH Cook-Off** on Sunday, June 25, 2017. CBSRZ cooks will bring their own incredible home-baked challahs (AND the recipes written out for our future CBSRZ Heritage Cookbook) with them to the Annual CBSRZ Picnic/Klezmer Concert where we will sample, compare and contrast, and laud the delicious results of our culinary endeavours.

And because we’re just getting started, be ready for more trips to far-flung places next year, when we will explore Jewish cuisine as it has developed in specific places around the globe, in Asia, Africa, South America and Europe – and in Brooklyn and New Orleans as well.

We welcome your help with any or all of this — cooks, historians, sociologists, anyone! Feel free to get in touch with Ellen Nodelman (ellennodelman@gmail.com) with suggestions and contributions of any sort!
Do you want to become more present to the joys of being alive?

**Wise Aging** provides an opportunity for people approaching their 60’s, 70’s and 80’s to:

- Cultivate the life you want to lead
- Develop a positive relationship to your changing body
- Revitalize and nourish healthy relationships

**A Taste of Wise Aging**, a 4 session introductory course, will be held: Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4
  - January 8th and 15th
  - February 5th and 12th

Facilitated by Belinda Brennan and Iris Freeman, trained by the Institute of Jewish Spirituality

Cost: Your purchase of *Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience and Spirit*, by Rabbi Rachel Cowan & Dr. Linda Thal

Space limited to 12 participants, with commitment to attend all sessions.

Contact: Belinda bzbct@comcast.net or Iris irisafreeman@gmail.com for additional information and to register
You can count on one finger the number of CBSRZ members during our 100-plus years of existence who have:

- Performed in the famous Oak Room at the Algonquin Hotel in New York City.
- Been acclaimed at Lincoln Center, and Joe’s Pub.
- Has produced highly acclaimed albums that have crossed a variety of musical lines.
- Recently won praise in a New York Times review for his new musical play, “A Star Has Burnt My Eye,” about the songwriter Connie Converse, performed to sold-out houses.
- Has been published by the New Yorker magazine, a piece he wrote about Converse and his fascination with her work. (November 21 issue.)

We of course are talking about Howard Fishman, son of Myra and the late Harvey Fishman, who has become a New York phenomenon for the way he champions and performs and produces a variety of musical styles.

(You may remember his terrific performances for Music & More, and the fun we had with them for example, serving hoagies after he and his quartet played a concert of Hoagy Carmichael songs.)

Anyway, we at the Whole Megillah thought we’d celebrate Howard’s recent success by showing you photos from the Connie Converse show.

As background, and to show what a person can do with commitment and patience, here is a little of what he wrote in his New Yorker piece. He began:

“I first heard a Connie Converse song at a holiday house party in 2010. I was trying to ease my social anxiety by scanning the spines on the bookshelves when ‘Talkin’ Like You’ came up on the house speakers, a song that sounded like nothing I’d ever heard before. A woman was singing in a plaintive, shy voice about ‘a place they call Lonesome,’ where she hears the voice of her absent love speaking to her in ‘everything I see’—which includes a bird, a brook, ‘a pig or two, and ‘sort of a squirrel thing.’

“Musically, I couldn’t place the song at all. It had the openhearted, melodic feel of an old Carter Family recording, but there were also fingerpicked, bluesy sections that recalled Mississippi John Hurt, and some harmonic movement that brought to mind the songs of Hoagy Carmichael. The traditional elements seemed so finely stitched together with a sophisticated sensibility that the whole sounded absolutely original — modern, even. The song swallowed me. The party froze. The room disappeared.”
What makes this all doubly touching is that Converse became a mysterious figure many decades ago never really made it in New York City, and apparently in despair, drove off and was never heard from again. Her ultimate fate remains a mystery, one he still has hopes of solving as he completes his biography of the singer.

We’ll have to wait for that, and for the next iteration of the show. Maybe we can lure him next year to Music & More for our tenth anniversary season? Hint, hint.
Bar Mitzvah of Jack Conley

What excites you the most about your Bar Mitzvah?
The party, because it’s going to be fun and I’ll get to hang out with my friends.

What does becoming a Bar Mitzvah mean to you?
I’m going to be a Jewish adult. I’ll be able read Torah and wear a prayer shawl.

Have you thought at all about your Torah portion? Any thoughts on what you will be discussing?
My portion is Bo, about the final plague—the death of the first born. I’ll be talking about God’s vengeful side.

Have you done a mitzvah project? (if not, what are you thinking about doing?)
I’m volunteering every weekend at the Meigs Point Nature Center at Hammonasset State Park, where I get to help animals and teach people about animals.

Any advice for kids who haven’t begun preparing?
Get good. The chanting is really hard so don’t get cocky.

Happy Birthday! Yom Huledet Sameach!

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<th>January</th>
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<tr>
<td>Moreh Stuart</td>
<td>Jack Conley</td>
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<td>Gloria Conley</td>
<td>Joe Mercier</td>
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<td>Daniel Sapochnikov</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Burzin</td>
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On Sunday January 22, at 9:30 am, Books & Bagels will host David Gerber, who will read from and discuss his book The Inventor’s Dilemma: The Remarkable Life of H. Joseph Gerber.

David Gerber is a fellow at the Yale school of Management. His book tells the fascinating biography of his father, H. Joseph Gerber. Joseph Gerber was a holocaust survivor and pioneering inventor whose work helped shape numerous industries from apparel to aerospace.

Peter Liebhold, Chair of the Division of Work and Industry describes The Inventor’s Dilemma as "a good story well told, with perceptive insight into the process of invention. A must read for the history of technology, it explores the complex aspects of personality, skill, and knowledge that align to make a great innovator."

And in his description of Joseph Gerber Frank Romano, Professor Emeritus at the Rochester Institute of Technology observes: “From the horrors of the Holocaust to Ellis island to the pages of Fortune magazine, Joe Gerber personified the American dream. He invented the future.”

And coming in March bestselling author Abigail Pogrebin will be engage us in conversation about her book, My Jewish Year 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew. Save the date March 5 at 9:30 am. There will be a profile of MS. Pogrebin in the next issue of The Whole Megillah.

At the dais Rabbi Bellows’ mother Cantor Beryl Bellows leads the congregation in song. Behind her (from left to right): Rabbi Elisa Koppel, Rabbi Bellows, Rev. Lee Ireland (United Church of Chester), Rev. Adam Yates (St. Stephens Episcopal Church, East Haddam), Rev. Matthew Emery (Storrs Congregational Church, UCC).

Michael Price with Rabbi Bellows in the background.

Seth and Spencer Benjamin Lindenman
Jacqueline Michael
May her memory be for a blessing.

Two cowgirls: Ali and Marci at the Hootenanny

Stephen Rozenberg and Michael Peck. Yippee Kai Yay!
Cindy Brown Austin signing her book *Cinders*.

Lary Bloom, Cindy Brown Austin, Program Committee Chair Tracy Kleinberg and Social Action Chair Andy Schatz in front of the ark.

Members from CBSRZ participate in a march from Chester to Deep River for love and safety against hate.

Rabbi Bellows leading the Holy Scrollers.
On a recent vacation to Croatia, I was walking in the walled city of Dubrovnik. After visiting many Churches, I stumbled upon a very old Jewish synagogue that was now a museum. The elderly gentleman guarding the entrance wouldn’t give me any information until I paid my 0 Kuna entrance fee. Then I was told there are only 45 Jews currently living in Dubrovnik. There is no active synagogue in the city, and no rabbi. This is the oldest Sephardi synagogue in the world. In the capital, Zagreb, there are 200 Jews, with a synagogue and rabbi, though that is a distance of over 6 hours. Up a flight of stairs brought me into a quaint area, depicted in the following pictures. There was a separate gallery upstairs for the women.

Fast forward a few days to the city of Split, where I saw a sign leading up a mountain to a Jewish Cemetery, which was established in 1573. There are over 700 graves. In 1945 it was closed and declared a monument. A beautiful walk up hundreds of steps led me to a fabulous view of the city, and a pink building with Hebrew words on it. I wondered if this too had been a synagogue at one time but was informed that this was the building where they prepared the bodies for burial. It was now a restaurant, with a fabulous view that overlooks the city of Split.

A fabulous trip to the Dalmation Coast held hidden surprises for me, as I unexpectedly found and explored a piece of Jewish history.
Growing SAC Revises Meeting Dates and Format

With an increasing agenda and number of active members, the Social Action Committee will hold meetings every two months (instead of every three months) and has set all the dates for 2017. “With the pot-luck dinner we do each meeting, folks have really enjoyed getting together, so we wanted to do it more often,” said Linda Rigono, who proposed the increased schedule. The meetings will also start slightly later to accommodate working congregants who expressed an interest in attending.

Each meeting will also dedicate time to focus on discussion of one of the major themes of our social action program. “By setting the focus of each meeting ahead of time, congregants who are interested in certain issues may attend that discussion even if they don’t generally like to come to meetings,” added Andy Schatz, committee chair. The next meeting, January 24, will feature a discussion of children’s issues led by Martha Stone, executive director of the Center for Children’s Advocacy, a broad based non-profit organization focused on children’s rights throughout Connecticut.

The full meeting schedule for 2017 is January 24, March 21, May 23, July 18, September 19 and November 21 (each is the next-to-last Tuesday of odd numbered months). Each meeting will begin with a pot-luck dinner at 5:30, and the meeting will run from 6pm to about 8pm. Contact andy@andrewschatz.com for information.

Update on Refugee Families

The Middletown Refugee Resettlement Coalition is nearly finished gathering the necessary volunteers to welcome a new family to Middletown in January. We are also in the process of raising the necessary funding to be able to support the family once they arrive. There is much to do!

Our current family are doing great. The father of the family is very grateful to have started a temporary job at Wesleyan University and is thrilled to be working once again. The children are all learning English fast and are enjoying their new friends. The family is learning to adjust to a much different climate, and the temperatures have been quite a shock for them.

The MRRC is plugging along and grateful for all of the support of our com-
munity. For further information, please contact izzi@middlesexchildren.org.

Hosting Waterbury Church January 13 For MLK Weekend

In the spirit and celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday weekend, CBSRZ will welcome Restoration Springs Inter-Denominational Church in Waterbury, Connecticut, to our Shabbat services on Friday evening, January 13. Bishop T. Charles Brantley and congregation will be joining with the CBSRZ community for our annual Shabbat service honoring Dr. King and his legacy. One of the key missions of Restoration Springs is to break down racism and bigotry through faith and outreach. Their congregation draws together people of all races, genders, economic levels, ages, and religious backgrounds.

We look forward to Rabbi Marci Bellows’ first MLK weekend Shabbat at CBSRZ. In past years, the Social Action Committee has sponsored a variety of events, including lectures, discussions and performances about racial justice and themes of “embracing diversity,” generally also focusing on the connections between the Jewish and African American communities. As Rabbi Bellows observed: “The Jewish and African-American communities have a long history of cooperation, shared experiences, and mutual respect. I look forward to honoring the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., by continuing to work towards the day when his words come true: ‘...when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, “Free at last! free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!”’

For further information, please contact wendy@cbsrz.org.

Cultural Exchange With Berlin Mosque

On Saturday, February 11, the Adult Education Committee and Social Action Committee have arranged for a day of mutual learning and cultural exchange with the Islamic Association of Greater Hartford (the Berlin Mosque). This follows the presentation of an educational series on Islam sponsored by the Adult Education Committee in September, at which three active members of the Berlin Mosque, Imam Refai Arafim, Reza Mansoor, president of the mosque and founding member of the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut, and Aida Mansoor, board member of MCCT, addressed large crowds of congregants and community members at CBSRZ on three successive weeks to explain Islam’s basic tenets and practices.

CBSRZ has invited members of the Berlin Mosque to join us for our Second Saturday Shabbat service and Kiddush luncheon. That same day, CBSRZ congregants have been invited to join in activities...
at the Berlin Mosque at 5:30, which will include an early evening meal. Additional activities that day may include a discussion session between the two meals — part of the “honest conversations” which the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut has held many times throughout the area - or joint activities for young kids. Please check the weekly email for details.

The day after this February 11 religious and cultural exchange, SAC will host a forum at CBSRZ titled: “Islamophobia or Islamophobia-phobia: Tough Questions about Islam and Politics.”

**SAC To Host Islamophobia Discussions**

On Sunday February 12 (9am-noon), the Social Action Committee will sponsor another in its series of forums on “embracing diversity” — a discussion titled: “Islamophobia or Islamophobia-phobia? Tough questions about politics and Islam.” This event will seek to address questions arising following the three-part series on Islam sponsored by the Adult Education Committee in September. The previous day (Saturday, February 11) will be a day of hospitality and cultural exchange with members of the Berlin Mosque.

For the February 12 forum, the SAC plans to have Islamic scholars for a discussion and Q and A session and then break into “roundtable” discussions for congregants interested in discussing the issues. Each of these smaller groups will have a facilitator specially trained in a program run by the Adult Education Committee. This is designed to encourage discussions of sensitive topics in a manner that is respectful of opposing views, sometimes strongly felt. CBSRZ has used this process successfully before in discussion of sensitive issues, including some related to Israel or its policies.

Andy Schatz, chair of the social action committee and president of the board of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut, noted that he had been approached several times by congregants concerned about issues that were not addressed during the September sessions. “The September sessions were a great start to learn about the basics of Islam,” said Schatz, who moderated one of those sessions, “but congregants have raised lots of questions that were not addressed, including some based on language in the Quran, and some of which address political policies shaped in part by our understanding of Islam.” The Muslim Coalition of CT helps identify speakers to address the toughest of questions, Schatz noted. “I think everyone recognizes the common interest in making everyone as comfortable as possible, and that requires all of us putting everything ‘on the table’ and not holding back. Full and frank discussion generally gets us to the best policies.”

As with past roundtable topics, SAC plans to take steps to encourage solid questions and complete answers. Short reading materials will be available a week or two in advance of the February 12 event. Written and anonymous questions will be permitted to ensure that nobody is deterred from asking a question due to perceived “correctness” issues. And the Islamic experts will be encouraged to prepare detailed responses that might be provided to congregants even if all questions cannot be addressed in sufficient detail at the forum.

Follow developments in the weekly CBSRZ email, or contact andy@andrewschatz.com for further information.
Condolences are extended to:

Rita Christopher, on the loss of her daughter-in-law’s grandmother, Wanda Condict
Lynda Wilkes, on the loss of her brother, Fred Wackenhut
Family of sculptor and friend of CBSRZ, Tom Doyle for their loss
Lois Glazer, on the loss of her close friend, Denise Avena
Marcia Meyers, on the loss of her brother, Simon Indianer
Family of Jacqueline Michael

Yahrzeits
Sheet 3, 5777 to Adar 1, 5777
Eleanor Adler - sister of Jacqueline Michael
Lawrence Joel Adler - brother of Rebecca Dauenhauer
Norman Bass - father of Susan Fine
Howard Beckerman - brother of Barbara Beckerman
Alvin Bliot - father of Doreen Joslow
Gilda Bienman - cousin of Eve Ber
Brendel Bloch - grandmother of Michael Cable
Bella Breslow - aunt of Judith Shapiro
Gertrude Coville - cousin of Lynn Coville
Stella DeNicola - mother of John DeNicola
Phyllis DeNicola - grandmother of John DeNicola
Sarah Glazer - daughter of Samuel Glazer
Helen Goldin - niece of Jack Goldin
Rose Goldman - friend of Max Goldman
Mary Pinkus Goldstein - friend of Max Goldman
Ethel Goodman - mother of Frank Goodman
Victor Gottfried - grandfather of Max Gottfried

Muriel Moran - mother of Donna Amorant
Joseph Pear - father of Adrienne Hopfer
Laurette Pinn - mother of Ed Pinn
Israel Resnikoff - father of Henry Resnikoff
Rita Rogers - mother of Andrew Rogers
Esther Schaffer - mother of Marilyn White-Gottfried
Julius Schneller - mother of Richard Schneller
Avraham Shiffman - father of Sydney Shiffman
Raul Sobrino - grandson of Giselle Sobrino
Isadore Case - grandson of Giselle Sobrino
Judith Cohen - mother of Mary Cohen
Murray Condit - mother of Mary Condit
Ophelia Condit - mother of Mary Condit
Cynthia Kaufman - mother of Martin Kaufman
Sarah Lebman - mother of Martin Lebman

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

...Our Chesed Committee is here to help.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hanukkah Ends</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 am Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:00 pm Board of Directors</td>
<td>5:45 pm Tot Shabbat</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<td>No Kivun</td>
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<td>8:45 pm - 9:45 pm Kadima</td>
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<td>6:15 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck</td>
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<td>7:00 pm 1st Friday Erev Shabbat Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am - 10:15 am Hatchala (Birth to 4 Years)</td>
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<td>3:00 pm SSKP Board meeting</td>
<td>8:00 am Morning Minyan</td>
<td>12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch &amp; Learn</td>
<td>7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service honoring Martin Luther King Jr. with Choir Special Guests Congregants from Restoration Springs Inter-Denominational Church</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am - 12:00 pm Kadima (Gr K-7)</td>
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<td>7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>4:15 pm - 5:45 pm Kadima (Gr-4-7)</td>
<td>7:00 pm Religious Affairs</td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 am 2nd Saturday Shabbat Service &amp; Kiddush Luncheon in honor of our Legacy Members</td>
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<td>11:30 am - 1:00 pm Makom (Gr 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Kivun - Martin Luther King Jr. Snow Date - Sis Palmer Art Gathering</td>
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<td>7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>8:00 am Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:00 pm Adult Ed Meeting</td>
<td>5:45 pm Early Erev Shabbat Service, followed by Shabbat dinners in Congregants’ homes (RSVP Required)</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<td>4:15 pm - 5:45 pm Kadima (Gr-4-7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olim Retreat, 9:30 am Books &amp; Bagels with David Gerber</td>
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<td>3:00 pm SSKP Board meeting</td>
<td>8:00 am Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:00 pm Adult Ed Meeting</td>
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<td>9:30 am - 10:15 am Hatchala</td>
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<td>3:00 pm - 5:30 pm SSKP meeting</td>
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<td>8:00 am Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:00 pm Executive Committee</td>
<td>5:45 pm Lay led Erev Shabbat Service with Piano</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm - 8:00 pm Social Action Committee with Pot Luck dinner at 5:30</td>
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<td>5:45 pm - 6:45 pm Kadima (Gr-4-7)</td>
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<td><strong>9:30 am - 1:30 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>8:00 am Morning Minyan</strong></td>
<td><strong>12:00 pm Valley Shore Clergy Association</strong></td>
<td><strong>4:15 pm - 5:45 pm Kadima</strong> (Gr-4-7)</td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm Religious Affairs</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:45 pm Tod Shabbat</strong></td>
<td><strong>6:15 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>No Kivun - Winter Break</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:30 pm Facilities Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>12:00 pm Valley Shore Clergy Association</strong></td>
<td><strong>4:15 pm - 5:45 pm Kadima</strong> (Gr-4-7)</td>
<td><strong>5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm Board of Directors</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:00 am Torah Study</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:00 am Torah Study</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:30 am 2nd Saturday Shabbat Service &amp; Kiddush Luncheon and Cultural Exchange with Berlin Mosque that includes invitation to the Mosque and Dinner at 5:30 pm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>9:00 am - 12:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Adult Ed: Historical Jewish Food Part I: Biblical</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:00 pm Music &amp; More with Kathy Kosins</strong></td>
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<td><strong>9:30 am - 10:15 am</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:30 am - 12:00 pm Islamaphobia discussions</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:30 am - 10:15 am Hatshahla</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:30 am - 12:00 pm Kadima</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:00 am Torah Study</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5:45 pm Torah Study</strong></td>
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<td><strong>9:00 am - 12:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Chester Meal Site</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm 2nd Saturday Shabbat Service &amp; Kiddush Luncheon and Cultural Exchange with Berlin Mosque that includes invitation to the Mosque and Dinner at 5:30 pm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>No Kivun - Winter Break</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Deep River Meal Site</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:45 pm Erev Shabbat Service with Piano</strong></td>
<td><strong>9:00 am Torah Study</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Adult B’nai Mitzvah</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 am - 7:30 am Adult B’nai Mitzvah</strong></td>
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<td><strong>President’s Day Office closed</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</strong></td>
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The Whole Megillah may be viewed in color on the web at www.cbsrz.org

Many thanks to these recent Oneg sponsors

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Mama Loshen By Marilyn Kalet

A dreykop
A befuddler, a whirl head, a person who is always trying to interest you in his pet schemes.
A gantse geshicte
A whole history
A hekdesh
A “holy mess”
A sheyne velt
A beautiful world
Alevay
It should only be so