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Passover approaches, and you can smell the matzah kugel in the air! There are many reasons that this festival remains one of our most poignant: we celebrate at home with family, we enjoy the foods and melodies, we are moved by the history of our people’s struggle. Yet, perhaps most importantly, we recall the redemption of our ancestors, as they were freed from hundreds of years of slavery, and finally allowed to be free. We were no longer punished merely for being Jews, and we were allowed to proudly observe Judaism. This theme, unfortunately, repeats itself throughout our history: times when we were persecuted for our beliefs, and times when we could live comfortably as Jews.

In our own past, we were confronted with a most terrifying imprisonment and annihilation – that of millions of Jews during World War II. This year, Passover begins on Friday night, March 30, and just a few short weeks later, on Wednesday night, April 11, we mark Yom HaShoah – Holocaust Remembrance Day. When we host our friends from Temple Beth Tikvah that evening, we will jointly remember both the moments of horror and the moments of resistance.

As these two days approach – one a celebration, and one a memorial – I wanted to share with you excerpts from a poem, written in 1943, that bridges the gap between the two parts of our history.

**Pesach Has Come to the Ghetto Again**

(Binem Heller, Warsaw, April 19, 1943)

Pesach has come to the Ghetto again. The wine has no grape, the matzah no grain, But the people anew sing the wonders of old, The flight from the Pharaohs, so often retold. How ancient the story, how old the refrain! The windows are shuttered. The doors are concealed. The Seder goes on. And fiction and fact Are confused into one. Which is myth? Which is real? “Come all who are hungry!” invites the Hag-gadah. The helpless, the aged, lie starving in fear. “Come all who are hungry!” and children sleep, famished. “Come all who are hungry!” and tables are bare. … Pesach has come to the Ghetto again. The lore-laden words of the Seder are said, And the Cup of Prophet Elijah awaits, But the Angel of Death has intruded, instead. As always – the words sharpened and precise. As always – the fate of more Jews in his hands: Who shall live, who shall die, this Passover night. But no more will the Jews to the slaughter be led. … See how our History writes END to the story, With death heroic, this Passover night! This year, as Pesach approaches, may we truly appreciate how fortunate we are to live in a time when we are free to practice our Judaism in the manner which we find most meaningful. May we feel gratitude for the safety in which we can express our Jewish identities throughout America. May we be thankful that the Land of Israel exists during our lifetime, ready for our visits, and ready for our love and support as a homeland for all Jews. And may we work to ensure such safety, freedom, and equality for all.

Shalom,

Rabbi Marci N. Bellows

PS – I look forward to celebrating Pesach with you all during our Congregational Seder on the 2nd Night of Passover (Saturday, March 31, at CBSRZ). Please see the enclosed information in order to register for our communal celebration and dinner.

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**Yom HaShoah – Wednesday, April 11, 7:00 PM**

Yom HaShoah, also known as Holocaust Remembrance Day, occurs on the 27th of Nisan. Shoah, which means catastrophe or utter destruction in Hebrew, refers to the atrocities that were committed against the Jewish people during World War II. This is a memorial day for those who died in the Shoah. The Shoah is also known as the Holocaust, from a Greek word meaning “sacrifice by fire.”

Please join us on Wednesday, April 11 at 7:00pm at CBSRZ with the combined leadership of Rabbi Bellows and Rabbi Offner of Temple Beth Tikvah and the musical accompaniment of both synagogues. This is guaranteed to be a beautiful and moving service.
Syrian Refugee Couple — Bloom Talk 2018

by Lary Bloom

We are here, in this sanctuary, a safe place for all. Here, tonight, we are tranquil. But for a moment, if you would, transport yourself to shores of Lebanon to a time last winter. Shed this feeling of familiarity and warmth.

There we meet a family that fled Syrian chaos and murder. Let me introduce to you a man called Haitham, who for 20 years had worked as a medical lab technician back when life was orderly, his wife, Shiyam, their daughter and son-in-law, Farah and Wesam, and their four grandchildren, Leila, Haitham, Lamese and the precocious little one, the five year old boy called Aboudi. By then, the family had endured much upheaval. Their home in the Syrian city called Homs, a once bustling industrial community of more than a half a million residents, was destroyed in the devastating civil war. Death was all around, inconsolability the common human condition.

Though the family escaped and found their own temporary sanctuary in Lebanon, all their worldly goods are lost, their livelihood destroyed, their future in grave doubt. They had, however, a sign of hope. They had been cleared by authorities to enter the United States, in effect, the promised land, through a UN program, and then through the U.S. State Department, and then tended by the local relief non-profit organization called IRIS, short for Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Service, in New Haven. The grandparents, Haitham and Shi-}


yam, were given tickets for a commercial flight to New York. They were told that the rest of the family would follow behind, in just a week or so. But as if this story were a movie or a novel, here’s where the heartbreak multiplies.

A new president entered the White House in Washington D.C. and among his first acts was to ban travel for people trying to emigrate from Muslim countries. For most Americans, this news was shocking, something to rail about, but there was no intimate consequence. For families in the midst of this, it was suffocating news. Families such as that of Haitham and Shiyam’s.

They came to New Haven unlike most refugee families, grandparents first. They are the oldest of IRIS clients, and unable to take up work as if they were 20-year-olds in at the peak of health. IRIS helped them get settled, found them an apartment on a city bus line, helped them in many other ways, including setting up English classes for Shiyam, as Haitham already speaks the language well, having worked as a young man on an oil pipeline for a British company.

And every day she and Haitham Skype to Lebanon, and every day tears are shed. Little Aboudi told his grandfather, “You promised you would take me to America. You have broken that promise. Grandfather, I will never trust you again.” In time, the boy learned that it is not his grandfather who is barring him from America, but the man in the White House. One day, Aboudi asked his grandfather, “Can you give me the telephone number of President Trump? I will call him. I think he must like children.”

Now the bit players arrived, myself and my wife Suzanne. Frustrated and angry about the 2016 election, we wanted to do more than grumble and write nasty Facebook posts. What could we do, though? How can two people fight back beyond taking to the streets and holding signs of protest? We decided to fight the only way we could, by helping refugees. In this we follow the path of many, including some in this congregation, and certainly were inspired by the work of the Social Action committee over many years, and even by the name of our congregation, translated, House of Peace, Pursuers of Justice.

So we signed up with IRIS to be “cultural companions” to Haitham and Shiyam. We began our work in April, with the promise of spring. Our job was to meet them once a week and to introduce them to life in America, the culture, the traditions, the practical matters of existence here. We were asked by IRIS, as with all cultural companion, not to get involved in other practical ways, but of course that is impossible. Over the months we have become regular visitors to the apartment in Westville, and many times have enjoyed lunches made by Shiyam, an excellent cook who prepares tabouli, and hummus, and pickled eggplant that requires great patience and skill. She is always cheerful with
us, though we know that her heart is breaking. We took them to places — lobster in Clinton — are we allowed to say lobster in a synagogue? — We took them to Mamoun’s, a Middle Eastern restaurant in New Haven. Haitham, not a shy person, lectured the owner that his food could be more authentic. We took them tailgating before a Yale football game, and enjoyed our food, ironically, under the FBI tent. We took them also to the Yale Art Gallery to show them that world-class collection but learned it was they who were going to show it to us. As fate would have it, that month the Gallery was featuring a collection of ancient Syrian art. Haitham ended up explaining it all to us, proud of his heritage and a culture that had been known for centuries for its advancements.

All the while IRIS, Sue and I try to help Haitham find suitable work. He is often distraught, saying if he had to do it over again, knowing what he knows now, and having endured the pain that he and his family have endured, he would have stayed in Lebanon.

And yet, we have also seen from our perspective something intimate to us, a glimpse into what the immigrants in our own families faced generations ago when they felt they were strangers in a strange land. Here, they have been able to find community, a growing number of Syrian and Middle Eastern refugees that run businesses in West Haven, and a diverse community of immigrants from dozens of countries.

Last week, Haitham and I sat down to talk about his life, the lessons he has learned, his joys and disappointments. He is a complicated man — confident in what he knows, and skeptical about what he has read or heard. As a child, he heard the talk among the adults that Palestinians are rightful owners of the land now called Israel. But he had read the Koran, which records the history of Israelites, and he asked himself, what is true, and what is false? That question, what is true and what is false, is one that any thinking person dwells on, especially one trying to adjust to a new land, to a new culture, to hang on to what he knows, and to learn what he doesn’t.
In March, CBSRZ will launch our “One Congregation, One Book” program. Based on the work of the Community/Action Committee, reported previously in *The Whole Megillah*, the goal is for all CBSRZ members to read and discuss a single book, Rabbi Arthur Green’s Judaism’s Ten Best Ideas. The board of directors has approved this program, and B’yachad, the committee of committee chairs, discussed and enthusiastically endorsed this effort at its meeting in January. Discussions will take place at meetings of groups large and small throughout the CBSRZ community during March–May. We hope to be able to formulate ideas for community-wide action to be discussed at the annual congregation meeting on June 14.

The book is only 100 pages long but discusses ten significant areas of Jewish ideas and ideals. Our goal is to encourage broad dialogue (across any political divides) about our core values – as Jews, Americans and, most importantly, as CBSRZ members – to identify what we might do to further the concept of “community” and tikkun olam (the Jewish concept of assisting God in repairing our world). Further details are available in the January–February issue of *The Whole Megillah*.

The Social Action Committee will purchase a copy of the book for each CBSRZ family. The free books will be available for pick-up at CBSRZ, but if you are unable to get to the synagogue, please contact the office who can help with getting a copy of the book to you. Members may also download a copy of the book from Amazon at their own expense (about $9).

For further info, please contact andy@andrewschatz.com.
CBSRZ Congregational Passover Seder
Second Night of Passover – Saturday, March 31, 2018
Seder begins at 6:00 pm followed by dinner at approximately 7:00.
Catered by our very own Bob & Linda Zemmel and Alforno Restaurant

MENU

Hard Boiled Egg and Salt Water
Chicken soup with Linda’s Matzoh Balls
Gefilte Fish with Two Horseradishes: Hot and Homemade Hotter
(mild also available)
Traditional Seder Plates

**Wine** **BYOB**
Ceremonial wine and juice will be provided. Please bring your own for dinner.
Braised Brisket Served with Its Pan Juices and Roasted Brussel Sprouts
Breast of Empire Chicken Stuffed with Wild Mushrooms
Fried Chicken Fingers a la Matzo Meal (FOR THE CHILDREN)
Roasted Seasonal Vegetables
Farfel Kugel
Arugula and Mesclun Salad with Vegetables
Grilled Asparagus and Grape Tomato Salad

Dessert
Linda’s Almond Macaroons
Assorted Coffees and Teas

Please join us as we come together to celebrate Passover – it’s always a delicious and spiritual experience. To add a personal touch to the celebration, we ask you to bring your family Seder plate (we’ll provide the ingredients). Rabbi Bellows will begin the service promptly at 6:00 pm.

Please send your reservation and payment to the synagogue office by Friday March 23*. (PO Box 438, Chester CT 06412). You may also register online via the CBSRZ.org website, call (860-526-8920) or email (office@cbsrz.org) your reservation with payment to follow. You must have a reservation in order to attend. If you wish to sit with another family, we suggest you arrive no later than 5:30 to get seats together.

Name(s)________________________________________ Phone Number ______________________

Member Adults ______ x $36 = ________ Non-Member Adults ________ x $45 = ________

Member Kids (5 - 12) ______ x $10=________ Non-Member Kids (5 - 12) ______ x $18 = ________

Member Kids (under 5) ______ free Non-Member Kids (under 5) ______ free

We would like to donate $_______ towards the purchase of a meal for someone who cannot afford to come to our Seder.
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“The flowering, not the fruit. The way, not the distance covered.”
Meir Shalev

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LITTLE EVERETT

by Jess Maghan

Editor’s note: Jesse Magban is a longtime friend of CBSRZ and has been an integral part of Holy Scrollers. Though he has moved out of town and is no longer able to attend, his wisdom and compassion are remembered with great affection.

The Memory is an artful dodger - playful and dangerous. We all love to massage the memory of a moment, a face, a place, a haunting “what if.” Embellishment is a universal human impulse, but as we grow older we acquire a keener eye for the background of a moment, the shadows suddenly shifting, an indicator never perceived before — the context revealing itself.

I can almost reach out and touch that same railing on the Ferry, still damp from the residue of a heavy fog. I am 15 (I think), my father is standing near. I am squatted down pointing out a seagull to my two-year old niece. It was never easy travelling with my parents, and it was getting worse. I was becoming aware of the suppressed erotic in their lives and in the lives of other adults around me, both friends and strangers. Confused by the total lack of parental concern or counsel, I had to write my own guidebook. Having recently been baptized in the joys of the flesh, I was rapidly morphing into a horny colt.

My grandmother always declared, “There were no good old days!” Shuffling her weight around the kitchen, interrupting her thoughts with a deep chuckle, she continued, “And if hay lofts could talk, we’d find the real roots of family trees.”

She’d then wander into a litany of dawn to dusk chores which centered on feeding a mob of voracious farmhands three meals a day. For years, she would recite various versions of the menus in minute detail, including the process of laying-out the bacon before breakfast and timing
the eggs to the stamping of boots in the bedrooms above.

I had my first visit to the big farm in 1943 traveling from Washington, D.C. to Deerwood, Minnesota at the height of World War II. In its awesome beauty, Union Station was enough to take a young boy beyond imagination. The giant engine and seemingly mile long train packed with real soldiers who, at the sight of my mother in her flowered dress and mid-thirties beauty, broke into cheers, reaching down and lifting my brother and me through the train windows and helping mother aboard. This “train ride of a lifetime” lasted nearly four days and even at that early age, I sensed the moment was both grand and awful.

A world full of soldiers going off to war (kids only eight years older then me at the time), singing in raucous camaraderie. But on the second day their mood shifted to restlessness, then to silence, which became more palpable as one-by-one, they began to gaze out the train windows in a collective trance of uncertainty.

Two years later, father informed us kids that our “cousin” was coming home from the war to live with us for a while. We were directed to treat him as one of our own. He had spent his entire war years as a prisoner in a Nazi Stalag. I recollect Mother sending him a letter each week — only once did she receive a reply. She kept it in her sewing basket. Cousin John dutifully showed up and moved into our bedroom, a barracks of bunk beds and five young boys incapable of understanding his need to share his Stalag years.

He was a chain smoker. He moved into the bunk above mine and positioned his suitcase at the end of the bed, flipping it open to reveal hundreds of pennies, and scads of miniature Hershey bars and a hard crust of bread that he immediately hid from me. One night before I drifted off to sleep, he told me the story of the obedience expected from the American P.O.W.s. They were forbidden to look their guards in the eye and they were also not allowed to move until ordered to do so.

He described the arrival of a new prisoner assigned to the bunk above him, a young blonde kid from Michigan. On the kid’s second night, the guards burst into the room and flipped on the blaring ceiling lights which so startled the kid that he sat up straight in his bunk, a strictly forbidden move. Automatically, the guard shot him in the head and left his body there for almost a week. Every morning, Cousin John had to move the dead kid’s arm in order to get out of bed for the count. In telling me this war story cousin John’s words cracked and he whispered, “Little Everett.” He never spoke of the war again.

He lived with us for several years and then got an apartment in a ghetto neighborhood.

A recluse, he worked as a security guard at the FBI Headquarters and was mugged several times going home after his second shift. Eventually, he moved back to his childhood farm in Deerwood, Minnesota to take care of his ninety-six year old widowed mother, my Aunt Vivien. Knowing that his soul was wrenched out of him by the war, she had arranged for the six-hundred acre family farm to be a sole inheritance for him. They had about eighteen months together until one night she heard him violently gasping for air. She managed to call 911 but by the time the ambulance arrived, Cousin John was dead. His mother died a few days later. He had failed to make a personal will and the entire family farm fell through the cracks of the Probate Court of Crow Wing County, Minnesota.

Reflecting back, I embrace the image of Cousin John standing in line at that Stalag camp enveloped in the terror of death at any moment. And now occasionally, just as he did, I find myself whispering “Little Everett” when I stop to examine the desideratum of a day.

Happy Birthday!
Yom Huledet Sameach!

March

Bryce Connelly    March 9
Sadie Applegate    March 10
Julian Randall    March 11
Benjamin Crair    March 12
Sara Gelvin    March 17
Noa Kleinberg    March 27
Rabbi Bellows    March 28

April

Aria Teva    April 2
Aviv Teva    April 2
Morah Foster    April 11
It’s not often that we get to welcome a winner of a National Jewish Book Award to Chester. But that’s exactly what’s going to happen on Sunday, March 18. At 9:30 am, Rachel Kadish will be discussing, and reading, selections from her third novel, *The Weight of Ink*, winner of the prestigious Jewish Book Council’s Book Club Award. That award recognizes an “outstanding work of fiction or nonfiction that inspires meaningful conversation about Jewish life, identity, practice, or history and is dedicated to promoting Jewish continuity for the next generation. The Award recognizes the power of books to inspire Jewish community and thought-provoking discussions.”

*The Weight of Ink* defies strict genre classification, combining as it does a gripping tale of contemporary scholars engaged in academic detective work and historical fiction that explores practical daily issues as well as the more complicated religious and philosophical issues that arise in the small Jewish world of Restoration England. We move back and forth from the competitive world of modern scholarship and the personal involvement of one of the book’s two heroines, Helen Watt, who has set out to uncover the secrets behind a trove of newly discovered seventeenth-century manuscripts, and the very different world of that manuscript, written by a mysterious scribe, at first identified solely as “Aleph.” We soon become as familiar with that world with all its challenges as we do with the modern world, and with Ester Velasquez, the scribe for a blind rabbi, a woman who would be remarkable in any time and place.

Ester’s story, partially uncovered by Helen, partially revealed as it goes along, plunges us into the London of the 1660s and into the small but gradually expanding Jewish community, largely made up of Sephardic Converso families. And the story reaches out into a much larger world, connecting us with the life and work of Spinoza and even hinting at the identity of Shakespeare’s ‘Dark Lady’.

BookBrowse summarizes the book this way: “Electrifying and ambitious, sweeping in scope and intimate in tone, *The Weight of Ink* is a sophisticated work of historical fiction about women separated by centuries, and the choices and sacrifices they must make in order to reconcile the life of the heart and mind.”

Numbered among the many admirers of *The Weight of Ink* are Carol Gilligan, author of *In a Different Voice*, Margot Livesey, author of *Mercury*, Leah Hager, author of *No Book but the World*, and Toni Morrison, Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winner and author of many books including *The Bluest Eye*, *Song of Solomon*, *Beloved*, and, most recently, *God Help the Child*.

You can meet Rachel Kadish, and listen to excerpts from her book, at Books & Bagels on Sunday morning, March 18, at 9:30.
The lineup for Music & More 2018 continues with a fantastic musical offering. After last year’s tremendous reception and sellout, The Maccabeats will be returning on Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 4:00 pm to the Music & More stage. Doors open at 3:00 pm. There will be a reception following the concert for an opportunity to meet and greet the members of the group.

The Maccabeats, the premier a cappella group from Brooklyn, are a social media sensation with their inspirational and infectious brand of entertainment. They have entertained and moved audiences

by Johanna Schaefer
around the world, from Alabama to New Zealand and everywhere in between. Using nothing more than the unadulterated human voice, a clean-cut presentation, and adding a little Jewish humor, this unique group of singers makes a meaningful connection with fans of all ages.

Originally formed in 2007 as Yeshiva University’s student vocal group, The Maccabeats have emerged as both Jewish music and a cappella phenomenon with a large fanbase, more than 20 million views on YouTube, numerous TV appearances, and proven success with four albums including 2014’s One Day More and 2015’s A Maccabeats Hanukkah. The Maccabeats ideology and identity play an important part in what they do. Strongly committed to the philosophy of Torah u-Madda, the integration of traditional and secular wisdom, this talented group perform an eclectic array of Jewish, American, and Israeli songs. Their breakthrough piece, “Lecha Dodi,” is the epitome of this synthesis, combining some of the most beloved words of Jewish liturgy with Leonard Cohen’s meaningful and melodic “Hallelujah.”

The Maccabeats’ unique offering has caught the eyes of numerous organizations and individuals throughout the world. They were asked to Gracie Mansion by former NYC mayor Michael Bloomberg. And they’ve been invited to the White House by US President Barack Obama. Over the course of time, their adventures and opportunities imparted upon The Maccabeats an important lesson: with great a cappella comes great responsibility. It is with much humility and gratitude that the group takes up the mission given to them, and shares their music with the world.

The nationally known masterful bluegrass band The Lonely Heartstring Band performs on Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 4:00 pm. Nourished by deep roots in the expansive canon of traditional American music, The Lonely Heartstring Band embodies the modern American condition: an understanding and reverence for the past that informs a push into the future. This multi-talented group of musicians is a classic Bluegrass quintet—always far greater than the sum of its parts. Combining soulful instrumental virtuosity with soaring three-part harmonies, their growing repertoire of original songs and compositions showcases not only their considerable talents, but a dedication to meaningful roots-conscious music. Since their beginnings in 2012, The Lonely Heartstring Band has been on the rise and shows no sign of slowing down. With their 2015 IBMA Momentum Award and the 2016 release of their debut full-length album on the legendary Rounder Records label, there is every reason to hope that they are at the front edge of a significant career.

The Lonely Heartstring Band has already generated a devoted following of music-lovers, performing and headlining at major music festivals and historic venues from Western Canada to California, from Kentucky to New Hampshire. Whether it’s a festival stage, theatre, or intimate room, the group always delivers a dynamic, diverse, and heartfelt performance. Over the last three years of touring, the band has crafted shows that generate a genuine connection and bring crowds to their feet.

The Lonely Heartstring Band, named in a tongue-in-cheek reference to one of their favorite albums, Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band, is a genuine musicians’ band, immediately appreciated by fellow-musicians who get their sound. Though their music is akin to the Punch Brothers, Alison Krauss, The Infamous String Dusters, and other folk-grass/chamber-grass groups in the Americana world, this band is already well on its way to making a dynamic and distinctive sound all its own. Characterized by intricate, precise, even elegant arrangements, The Lonely Heartstring Band’s music still has all the joy and spontaneity of bluegrass or folkgrass at its finest, as exemplified in George Clements’s unique and sensitive, yet powerful, lead vocals, and their own extensive repertoire of originals. The group is comprised of the aforementioned George Clements on guitar and lead vocals, his identical twin brother Charles on bass and harmony vocals, Gabe Hirshfeld on banjo, Matt Witler on mandolin, and Patrick McGonigle on fiddle, rounding out the harmony vocals as well. Four of the five band members met while students at Boston’s Berklee College of Music.

Advance tickets can be purchased at www.cbsrz.org/events or through the Music & More at CBSRZ Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/music.more.cbsrz.
Kivvun Korner

Kivvun Open House March 25, 2018

I nvite your friends and neighbors to join us for an open house for our Kivvun program on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at 10:00am. They will be able to tour our building and observe our learners in action at our newly restructured Sunday program. This innovative program features an active learning environment, individualized Hebrew instruction, project-based learning, and student’s choice of chugim “electives” (current choices include cooking, storytelling, art, Legos).

The warm and caring environment is designed to nurture a child’s Jewish identity and facilitate Jewish learning. Our multi-age model creates a strong community and ensures that each child is valued as his or her own unique learner.

Visitors will have a chance to meet families of children who are currently enrolled in the program and ask questions. At 11:00am there will be a Passover presentation put on by our youth.

For more information call the CBSRZ office at 860-526-8920 or visit www.cbsrz.org/learn/youth.
Thank You!
So many folks offered their time and talents to help our fall and winter activities run smoothly. I wanted to take an opportunity to publicly thank them!

The Teva Family  The Fishman Family
The Bixon Family  Lisa Connelly
Kierstin Pupkowski  Beth Mercier

Everyone who donated food to our Chanukah Party and Tu B’Shevat Seder!
As always, we thank our teachers, youth group coordinator, Belinda and Rabbi Bellows for their hard work and leadership!

Bat Mitzvah of Sara Gelven
March 24, 2018
Torah Portion: Tzav

Sara Gelven

What is your torah portion about?
My torah portion is about all the details of all sacrifices.

How are you going to talk about that for your d’var torah?
I am about to start working on that!

(Come on 3/24/18 to hear her interpretation!)

What are you most looking forward to about your Bat Mitzvah?
There has been so much work leading up to it! I am excited to see it all come together.

What is your mitzvah project about?
My family regularly donates to suicide prevention charities. I chose to do a fundraiser with a GoFundMe page to benefit the Jed Foundation. For more information about the Jed Foundation check out this website: www.jedfoundation.org To donate directly to Sara’s mitzvah project, visit: www.gofundme.com/the-gelven-project

What do you like to do when you are not preparing for your bat mitzvah?
I dance – jazz and sing, play the piano and the ukulele. I am in 7th grade at Jared Elliot Middle School in Clinton.

What’s Cookin’ in the Kitchen?
If you have been in the building on Sunday Mornings you may have noticed our youth, led by Moreh Eric, in the kitchen around 11am. As part of our newly redesigned Sunday morning program, students are able to choose a chugim “elective” to explore in each half of the year. Their choices this year have been storytelling, art, legos and cooking! These chugim give the youth a hands-on way to explore their “quest,” a theme chosen to be explored throughout the semester – this year’s theme is community!

You are welcome to stop by and see what they are working on or share space if your committee has an event that day!

| SAVE THE DATE |
| 3/4/18 AT 10:30AM EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING |
| 3/11/18 9:30AM JEWISH SPIRITUAL PARENTING CLASS |
| 3/25/18 10AM OPEN HOUSE |
| 11AM LIVING HAGGADAH PROGRAM |
| 4/8/18 AT 10:30 EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING |
On March 9th, tens of thousands of Jews across America will come together to celebrate at the 22nd Annual Shabbat Across America™.

On Friday night, March 9, 2018, hundreds of synagogues across the continent will take part in an historic national Jewish event to celebrate that which unifies all Jews — Shabbat! Everyone is invited... singles, couples, families — and let's all ages. So bring your neighbors, your friends, your co-workers — and let's celebrate, together!

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The picture above from the recent Mavens’ meeting and potluck dinner. Plans were discussed for upcoming meetings and events, such as the Wesleyan Israeli film festival. There is also the possibility of smaller group meetings with people interested in knitting, learning canasta or mah jongg. Our next meeting will be March 7th with details to follow. If you are not on the email list and would like to be, please email lrigono@sbcglobal.net and then you can come and share your ideas.
Parkville Community School Clothes Drive
by Sandy Herzog

Thank you, friends!
We love you!

From baby clothes to a coat for a mother from Puerto Rico, our congregants have risen to the challenge of helping to keep Parkville Community School students and their families warm!

We would like to send a shout-out to the following for their kindness in donating to this worthy cause:

We have received requests for more baby clothes (up to size 18 months). There is also a continuing need for school uniforms (Sizes 6 to 16): navy or khaki pants/jumpers/skirts; white/blue tops. Many families don’t have washing machines; thus the need. So, if you haven’t had a chance to donate, we still need your help.

Charity outweighs all other commandments. Talmud. Bava Batra

Book Donations

The Social Action Committee will be collecting books for the women’s prison at York and the juvenile prison in Cheshire which houses mostly men age 16 to 21. If you have any books that you think they would enjoy we will have a collection box in the lobby during March and April. The women like a variety of books and their favorite author is James Patterson. Favorite books for the young men include science fiction, horror, Harry Potter and especially books about zombies.

Thank you,—Linda Rigono
United Action Connecticut Update on Immigration and Domestic Worker’s Rights

CBSRZ is a member of United Action Connecticut, a multi-faith organization that strengthens communities by bringing people and congregations together to foster initiatives for improving lives through social justice work. Here is a summary of current actions:

- Immigrant rights — conducted “Know Your Rights” forums in the greater Hartford area, most recently in New Britain. These forums outline the action undocumented and DACA beneficiaries can take to combat deportation through a detailed explanation of legal avenues that can be pursued.

- Advocate for a Domestic Workers’ Bill of Rights that include:
  - The right to overtime pay at time-and-a-half after 40 hours of work in a week, or 44 hours for workers who live in their employer’s home;
  - A day of rest (24 hours) every seven days, or overtime pay if they agree to work on that day;
  - Three paid days of rest each year after one year of work for the same employer; and
  - Protection under human rights Law, and the creation of a special cause of action for domestic workers who suffer sexual or racial harassment.

CBSRZ Social Action Committee Submits Three Proposals for York

The Social Action Committee has submitted three proposals for programs CBSRZ would provide to the women prisoners at York Correctional Institution in Niantic (East Lyme). These include (i) teaching financial literacy to women shortly before release to help prepare for reintegration, (ii) a joint CBSRZ-York book club to discuss current books of interest and develop lasting relationships, and (iii) visits by the CBSRZ choir to sing and interact with the women of York. We hope to hear from York soon.

The financial literacy project, headed by Kierstin Pupkowski, is still seeking a few women who would help teach at York. Though taken for granted by many of us, the basics of financial literacy — budgeting, balancing a checkbook, saving, dealing with banks and credit card companies — are foreign concepts to many of the women at York. Several CBSRZ members have been trained by the Connecticut Money School and will provide training in some of the details as well as the process of teaching.

If you would like to become involved in the financial literacy project or book club, please contact andy@andrewschatz.com or 860-202-2690.
Mah Jongg Mondays

We are thinking of having a class to teach people mah jongg on Monday nights. If we get four people who are interested we can do it. If you would like to learn mah jongg please email lrigono@sbcglobal.net.
Memorial Plaques
Adar 14, 5778 to Nissan 15, 5778
Rosa (Mimi) Amaran – mother of George Amaran
Adelaide Bellows – grandmother of Rabbi Bellows
Alfred Bernstein – father of Jeff Bernstein
Irwin Braverman – father of Barbara Infeld
Howard Bruno – father of David Bruno
Eve Ber on the loss of her father, Lewis Goldfinger
Betty Drilich – mother of Ron and Richard Glassman
Goldie Glassman – mother of Heather Schwartz
Shirley Goller – mother of Ethel Goller
Anna Gottfried – mother of Ellen Gottfried
Jennie Gugenheim – great-grandmother of Gail Feld
Dennis Hersh – friend of Sidney Seidman
Sue Hert – friend of Roni Berson Weiner
Lena Jacobs – mother of Stephen Jacobs
Sol LeWitt – husband of Carol LeWitt and father of Sofia and Eva LeWitt
Franklyn B. Mellion – mother of Ellen Ilberman
Abraham Melter – granddaughter of Laura Roman
Sulpheia Meninsky – mother of Daryl Meninsky
Eva Meninsky – mother of Daryl Meninsky
Siegfried Schwarz – father of John Schwarz
Sidney Winakor

Yahrzeits
Adar 14, 5778 to Nissan 15, 5778
Rosa (Mimi) Amaran – mother of George Amaran
Adelaide Bellows – grandmother of Rabbi Bellows
Alfred Bernstein – father of Jeff Bernstein
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Sulpheia Meninsky – mother of Daryl Meninsky
Eva Meninsky – mother of Daryl Meninsky
Siegfried Schwarz – father of John Schwarz
Sidney Winakor

Condolences are extended to:
Hyla Cohen on the loss of her husband, Jim Cohen
Lynda Wilkes on the loss of her stepfather, Charles Spindler
Doreen Jalsow, on the loss of her dear friend, Susan Heilmaner
Henry Gottlieb, on the loss of his wife, and our dear friend, Beth Gottlieb
Rona Malakoff and Ethan Goller on their loss of an Ami friend Wayme Dymoo

Please note that the person is listed with a shortened name, and we apologize for the confusion. We will update the information as soon as possible.
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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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<td>5:30pm Facilities</td>
<td>4:15pm - 5:45pm Kadima</td>
<td>5:30pm Religious</td>
<td>Office Closed</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<td>Hatchala</td>
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<td>Affairs Committee</td>
<td>7:00pm 1st Friday Fun</td>
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<td>(Birth to 4 Years)</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Choir</td>
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<td>7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service with Yizkor and Break the Chametz Oneg</td>
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<td>9:30am - 10:30am</td>
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<td>3:00 pm SKKP Board</td>
<td>4:15pm - 5:45pm Kadima</td>
<td>12:00pm Lunch and Learn</td>
<td>7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service</td>
<td>9:00am Torah Study</td>
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<td>Jewish Spiritual Parenting</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Choir Practice</td>
<td>7:00pm Erev Yom Hashoah Service at CBSRZ with Choir</td>
<td>7:00pm Board of Directors</td>
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<td>10:30am Shabbat service</td>
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<td>12:00pm - 1:00pm Makam</td>
<td>1:00pm Adult B'not Mitzvah Class</td>
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<td>4:00pm - 6:00pm CBSRZ at Chester Meal Site (UCC)</td>
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<td><strong>15 30 Nisan</strong></td>
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<td><strong>20 5 Iyyer</strong></td>
<td><strong>21 6 Iyyer</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>No Kivvun - Spring Break</td>
<td>7:00 pm Choir Practice</td>
<td>7:00 pm Intro to Guided Jewish Meditation</td>
<td>No Kivvun - Spring Break</td>
<td>5:45pm Shabbat At-home Dinners</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<td>4:00pm Music &amp; More with Lonely Heartstrings</td>
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<td>No Kivvun - Spring Break</td>
<td>7:00pm - 8:30pm Adult Ed with Rabbi Bellows</td>
<td>4:15pm - 5:45pm Kadima</td>
<td>7:00 pm Executive Committee</td>
<td>7:30pm Erev Shabbat services with Choir. We are joined by the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven and guest speaker Ethan Felson, Exec Dir of the Israel Action Network</td>
<td>9:00 am Torah Study</td>
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<td>10:00 – 11:30 am Earth Day Event</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Choir Practice</td>
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Many thanks to these recent Oneg sponsors

Daryl Meninsky
Jackie McKown
Stephen Rozenberg & Michele Kleiman
Brad & Lori Jubelirer
Clo & Stephen Davis
Adult Education Committee