Southern aerial view of the Temple Mount, Al-Aqsa Mosque in the Old City of Jerusalem. Annotated in the foreground is Al-Qibli Chapel. Al-Aqsa Mosque is considered to be the third holiest site in Islam after Mecca and Medina. Behind are The Dome of the Rock and to the right, The Dome of the Chain, constructed during the Umayyad Caliphate, which served as a model for the building of the Dome of the Rock. The Temple Mount is considered to be the premier holy site in Judaism as it is the place where the first and second Temples stood.

Inside this issue

Amy Bloom reads from her new book at Books & Bagels pg 5

Our Rabbi on Confirmation and Shavuot.................................3

Hopeseed, An Original Story by Annika Liss.................................16–17

Camera Club Art Exhibit.................................6–7

Social Action Committee’s Outward Reach.................................18–19
2nd Century Campaign
Rite Christopher & David Frank
Edward & Linda Pinn
Saul & Hila Rosen
Irving & Edie Shiffman

Social Action Fund
Michael & Susan Peck: in memory of Beth Gottlieb

Youth/Camp Scholarship
Steven & Carole Riccardi: in memory of Bert Madnick
Joseph & Lillian Friend Fund
Sheila Friend Byrne: in memory of Lillian and Joseph Friend

Prayerbook Fund
Julian & Karen Evans: for new family siddur - in honor of Maddy Evans’ graduation

Religious School Fund
Jeffrey & Karen Evans: in memory of Philip Burzin

Piano & Music Fund
Elizabeth Pear: in memory of Joel Pear

Development
Lori Shafner: in honor of Harvey Payton’s b’day

Minyan Fund
Rita Fink: in memory of Sydney Slater, Bernie Slater and Joel Pear

Holy Scrollers
Dana Dixon
Rita Fink: in memory of Beth Gottlieb and Howard Baron
Stephen Nardine

Philip Scheffler Peace and Justice
Linda Scheffler: in memory of Philip Scheffler

Donations
Anonymous Donations (5)
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David and Sharon Bender: in memory of Dr. Lewis Case

Stephan & Clo Davis: in memory of Arely Stein-Azen
Stephan & Clo Davis: in memory of Saul Davis
Philip & Susan Fine: in appreciation of Shabbat Across America
Rita Fink: in honor of Gene Kalet’s 90th birthday
Rita Fink: in memory of Ben Bernstein and Seymour Krechevsky
Ellen Friedman: in memory of William Baer
Friedman
Irving Friedman: in memory of Irene Fielding Norman Hanenbaum: in honor of the birth of
Ari Solomon Price
Reevlyn Klein Hickory: in memory of Helen Frances Rosenkrantz
Joan Horton: in memory of Sidney Horton
Barry Ilberman: in memory of Debra Million Prestien
Eric & Barbara Infeld: in memory of
Irvin Braverman
Jacobi, Case & Speranzini PC: in memory
of Dr. Lewis Case
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Lorraine Kloppholz: in memory of Dora Zarchin
Carol, Eva and Sallie LeWitt: in memory of Sol LeWitt
Meg Magida: in memory of Laura Hesslein
Meg Magida: in memory of Louise Ross
Edward & Linda Pinn: in appreciation of the Zemmel family for their generous contribution of food for our Shabbat Across America service
Jerome & Markene Schorr: in honor of
Sandy Seidman’s 70th birthday
Susan & Michael Schenker: in memory of
Dr. Lewis Case
John Schwolsky & Elizabeth Sterch: in memory of
Allen Sterch
John Schwolsky & Elizabeth Sterch: in memory of
Irving and Evelyn Schwolsky
Peter Schwolsky: in memory of Evelyn Schwolsky
Sandy & Andrea Seidman
Edward Stewart: in memory of Dr. Lewis Case
Sharon Taubman: in memory of Si Taubman
Christopher George Wich
Jacqueline Wolff: in memory of Daniel Wolff
Jacqueline Zwilling: in memory of Dr. Lewis Case

Rabbi Discretionary Fund
ANONYMOUS: in honor of the birth of Elisa Ruby Peck
Laurie Bauchman
Gene & Marilyn Kalet: in memory of David Kalet
Elizabeth Pear: in appreciation of Rabbi Bellows and CBSRZ
Michael & Susan Peck: in honor of the birth of
Susana Amelia Quiriana
Steven & Carole Riccardi: in memory of
Bert Madnick

From Our Rabbi
Shavuot/Picnic/
Congregational Meeting
Books & Bags
Amy Bloom
Camera Club
Kivvun Korner
Photo Gallery
Jewish Meditation
Lunch and Learn
Hopseed
Social Action
Jewish Trivia
Remembrance
Calendars

2018-19

9

20
21
I hope you are having a lovely spring. This time of year brings a special ceremony to our congregation. On Saturday night, May 19, the students in our Makom 10th grade class will be “Confirmed.” As we Jews mark the pilgrimage festival of Shavuot, and its celebration of the gift of Torah, our students will be leading the evening festival service, surrounded by family and friends. They will read from the Torah and the Haftarah, and we will shower them with accolades and Mazel Tovs. The students who remain part of Kivvun through the 10th grade year take part in intensive, personalized years of learning, designed to help them articulate who they are as Jews and as young adults.

Many wonder: when did this educational milestone become part of the Jewish lifecycle? Confirmation began in the mid-1800s in Germany in early Reform Jewish communities. These leaders believed that a 16-year old was better equipped to confirm his/her Jewish identity than a 13-year old. Additionally, Bat Mitzvah did not yet exist as a ritual for Jewish girls, so Confirmation allowed for an egalitarian celebration of Jewish youth. The first confirmation ceremony in the United States took place in 1846. Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise officiated over this confirmation service in a Reform temple in Albany, New York. By the end of the nineteenth century, the ceremony had become widespread in Reform communities.

Eventually, Bat Mitzvah (now celebrating its 96th anniversary) was created, and Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrations were reintroduced into Reform congregations. Confirmation remained as the next milestone along the Jewish learning timeline. Here at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek, Confirmation is celebrated at the end of 10th grade.

An important component of the curriculum involves encouraging the students to develop their own opinions about current events, hot topics, and controversial subjects — all while viewing them through a Jewish lens. We examine issues such as gun control, discrimination, sexuality and relationships, advocacy, and more. I feel privileged to work with so many of our Kivvun students, but there is something quite special about guiding our Makom students through these important conversations.

Whereas bar and bat mitzvah ceremonies focus on an individual child becoming a Jewish adult, confirmation ceremonies focus on a community of young adults confirming their commitment to Judaism and Jewish living.

Reform leaders drew a parallel between the Jewish people’s acceptance of the Torah at Mount Sinai and Jewish confirmation students accepting the role of Judaism in their lives. Thus, it has become customary to hold confirmation services close to, or on, the celebration of Shavuot, which celebrates the anniversary of receiving the Torah. The graduating class stands in front of the ark just as the Israelites once stood at Mount Sinai.

I hope you will consider joining us on Saturday, May 19, for this moving and distinctive service. I also hope you will lovingly remind your children or grandchildren that Jewish learning does not end at Bar or Bat Mitzvah. As our teens will tell you, as well as countless adult learners: there is always so much more to come!

Ushalom,
Rabbi Marci N. Bellows
On Saturday May 19 at 7:30pm our Makom (10th grade) students will be affirming their dedication to Jewish life as young adults by participating in their confirmation service with Rabbi Bellows and Cantor Belinda. Throughout this year these young adults have met with Rabbi Bellows to discuss, debate and ponder ethical questions in relation to being a Jew in our modern world. The service will be lead by the students themselves. They will read traditional texts for Shavuot which commemorate the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai, namely The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20) and The Book of Ruth. Throughout the service, our students will also be sharing their thoughts on the larger Jewish world and their role within it. We will conclude the evening with a Yizkor Memorial service.

We warmly invite the entire Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek community to show their support and pride by attending this joyous event. A celebratory Oneg will follow.

CBRSZ Annual Community Picnic and free concert by the new CBRSZ member band The Cluppin Spielers will be on Sunday, June 24 at 5:00pm rain or shine, so mark your calendar. The Cluppin Spielers will bring us a unique concert. This musical group represents the musical styles that our congregants love to kick back with, sing with, dance to, and play. A mix of old and new, the repertoire draws on the traditional melodies of Eastern European Klezmer, contemporary Jewish Bluegrass known as “JewGrass” and Americana Folk. Regardless of the genre, the group’s lively, toe-tapping melodies will leave audiences laughing, smiling, and clapping.

Klezmer is largely dance songs for weddings, often sung in Yiddish. The word Klezmer comes from two Hebrew words, kleizemer meaning “vessels of song”. Over time the term klezmer referred to musical instruments, and later to the musicians themselves. The music of Klezmer swings, getting you on your feet as you grab your partner. As Klezmorim brought their yiddish “folk” sounds and merged them with American culture, contemporary Jewish musicians are now taking part in a growing trend to combine Jewish spirituals with Americana – typically thought of as blue grass, folk and country music to create a new genre known as “JewGrass”. Traditional and contemporary Jewish musicians have in common the desire to push the boundaries of what’s expected, forging new ways of telling stories. After all, storytelling is second nature to Judaism, a perfect match for Americana folk tunes.

The member group consists of musicians who were in A Klez Act, the previous temple house band that has entertained audiences since 1993, as well as musicians who discovered the joy of making folk music together when celebrating at the installation ceremony of our current Rabbi, Marci Bellows in 2016. In bringing the two groups together as one, we join fellow artists on the musical journey to tell our stories in fun, new ways. Band Members (in alphabetical order) Melinda Alcosser – percussion; Steven Barasz – vocals, guitar; Billy Bertelli – drums; Belinda Brennan – vocals, mandolin; Meg Gister – vocals, keyboard; Neil Gottfried – vocals, guitar, clarinet; Norman Hanenbaum – saxophone; Lori Jubelirer – bass guitar; Norman Rutty – vocals, 12 string guitar; Marcy Saltzman – vocals, banjello; Joel Saltzman–guitar; Pat Smith – percussion; Shelley Sprague – vocals, guitar; David Zeleznik – banjo.

The picnic will provide plenty of grilled summer favorite foods for purchase with proceeds going to local charities. So bring your lawn chairs and celebrate the beginning of summer with us. In case of rain, we’ll move the concert inside.

On June 14 at 7:00 pm the synagogue will host its annual congregational meeting. On the agenda will be the 2018 budget, dues structure, election of the board of directors and officers, changes to by laws. And, of course, snacks. Please attend.
Bagels & Bagels with Amy Bloom

by Ellen Nodelman

Amy Bloom returns to CBSRZ with White Houses, the story of Eleanor Roosevelt and Lorena Hickok, in hand.

Amy Bloom, Books & Bagels and history seem to be irreversibly interwoven at CBSRZ. Congregation Beth Shalom’s very first Books & Bagels in 1994, then modestly entitled Congregation Breakfast, featured Amy and her (then new) book, Come to Me. She has returned to us many times with many more wonderful books, and this June, Sunday, June 3rd, to be exact, she will return again, this time to discuss White Houses, her novel about Eleanor Roosevelt and Lorena Hickok, told in ‘Hick’s’ unique and compelling voice. With this book, we find ourselves plunged into a time and place in history that is both terribly familiar and still surprising, to learn that everything that we knew to be true about Eleanor Roosevelt was true indeed – but that it was only part of the truth about her.

Work of fiction though it may be, White Houses is based on the three thousand letters between Hickock and Roosevelt that can be found at the Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, a stash that allowed Bloom to bring their personalities, their relationship and their very genuine love to vibrant and convincing life.

You won’t want to miss Amy Bloom’s talk about White Houses on Sunday, June 3rd, at 9:30 am. We’ll see you there!
A juried selection of photographs by members of the Connecticut Valley Camera Club (CVCC) will be on display in the CBSRZ Gallery from Friday, May 4, through Friday, July 27. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, May 6, from 3 to 5 p.m. to which all are welcome — appetizers and wine will be served.

The exhibition at CBSRZ will highlight the work of many of the Club’s approximately 50 members, whose occupations and ages vary greatly demonstrating the diversity present within the Club. The photos in the exhibition are all available for sale with 35 percent of the sale price benefitting CBSRZ. The show can be viewed Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The CVCC, which was founded in 2002, has a simple mission — to give its members the opportunity to become better photographers. The ways that the Club achieves this objective include offering a variety of presentations and workshops to help members expand their technical and creative skills. During these popular events, members explore such areas as photographic techniques, computer processing, artistic interpretation and commercial applications, often under the tutelage of a professional photographer.

The CVCC welcomes new members at any time. Meetings are generally held on the first Monday of the month at the Lymes’ Senior Center in Old Lyme. For more information about the CVCC, visit the club’s website at ctvalley-cameraclub.smugmug.com. Meeting dates, speakers and their topics, and other notices are also published on the club’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CTValleyCameraClubPage.
Peter Chow, Pre-dawn Rovinj

Edward McCaffrey, Southwest Point

Mary Fiorelli, Buttonwood Farm
The kids of CBSRZ outdid themselves at our annual spring Stuff-the-Truck food drive at Stop and Shop, raising $490 and 616 pounds of food! Ellen Rabin, the director of the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries described the kids’ work as nothing short of amazing. Annika and Daphne Liss, Bella and Nina Fishman, Ella Connelly and Gloria Conley all worked the shoppers as they entered and exited the store — proving my theory that cute partnered with steely resolve is the ultimate fundraising tool. Jack Conley, Bryce Connelly and Benjamin Rosenblum-Jones came straight from Gesher and spent well over an hour unpacking, sorting and boxing the food on the truck. They were all fantastic!
Debby Trautmann, Teri Fogel, Phyllis Ross, Henry Gottlieb and Andy Schatz were CBSRZ’s team that prepared and served meals at the Deep River meal site of Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries on Thursday April 5. This marked a transition, as Debby, who has been the manager of CBSRZ’s quarterly meal site for several years, passed the reins to Teri, who will be managing CBSRZ’s quarterly activity in Deep River going forward.

CBSRZ team of Johanna Schaefer, Henry Gottlieb, Debra Landrey and Rita Fink prepared and served a special Easter meal at the United Church of Chester for the Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries on Sunday, April 1, but Johanna, the manager of CBSRZ’s quarterly meal site work in Chester, reported that a fifth member of the team was Cozy Corner Bakery, which supplied these great Easter desserts for the guests!
Imam Refai Arefin of the Berlin Mosque leads study session with members of his congregation and Kivvun students.
Rabbi Bellows speaks about the role of Shabbat in our lives.

A Shabbat feast, thanks to the generosity of Alforno and our members.

Over 80 members and guests turned out for the community seder on the second night of Passover. Once again we were treated to Alforno’s delectable dishes.
Books & Bagels: Author Rachel Kadish tells about the process of research and writing for her novel *The Weight of Ink*, winner of the National Jewish Book Award.

The Maccabeats reprise their sublime harmonies and outgoing personalities at Music & More’s March concert.

Author Rachel Kadish, center, with her parents and sponsors Phyllis and Herb Ross.
The Lonely Heartstring Band plays to an enthusiastic audience at the April 15th Music&More concert.

Music&More Director Dave Zeleznick finally has his wish come true: bluegrass at CBSRZ.
Join Rabbi Marci Bellows for an Introduction to

GUIDED JEWISH MEDITATION

TUESDAYS, APRIL 10, 17, MAY 8, 15; 7:00 PM

A meaningful combination of self-care, prayer, and relaxation

Many of us believe that we have to turn to other cultures or religions in order to develop a meaningful meditation practice. However, Judaism provides centuries of wisdom related to meditation, mindfulness, and connection with the Divine. Each session will include a discussion of the history of Jewish meditation, as well as a guided meditation session. No previous experience required. Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a blanket or mat.

Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek ~ 55 E Kings Hwy, Chester, CT 06412 ~ www.cbsrz.org
Lunch and Learn
With Rabbi Bellows
2017-2018

Join us for a reading and discussion series of Abigail Pogrebin’s

My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew

Sessions are the 2nd Thursday of each month from 12-1:30 pm.
Please bring a bag lunch and your love of learning!
Prepare each of the chapters below in advance of each session.
You can buy your book from your favorite bookseller,
or pick one up at CBSRZ
(a limited number of copies will be available at $18 each).

Dec 14, 2017 – Chapters 1-5
Jan 11, 2018 – Chapters 6-8
Feb. 8, 2018 – Chapters 10-13
Mar 8, 2018 – Chapters 14-17
Apr 12, 2018 – Chapters 18-20
May 10, 2018 – Chapters 21-23
June 14, 2018 – Chapters 24 - Epilogue

For questions or to RSVP: Please contact Debbie St. John at
debbie@cbsrc.org or 860-526-8920
It's a beautiful sunny day, but I can't go outside. Not even to get water from the well. My mother, my twin sister Lizzie, and I have not been allowed to go outside since the Greeks came, unless we are with a male relative. But my twelve-year-old brother, James, has to work every day and father was forced to fight with the Greeks. So now we are trapped until the Greeks leave. I hope this tyranny ends soon, I think, as I start to weave a light blue piece of cloth on my loom.

"Don't worry," says Lizzie. It's almost like she can read my mind. Suddenly we hear coughing. We rush to the roof. Mother's there and she's coughing up blood.

"We need a doctor," I say.

"But there isn't one," responds Lizzie. Right. I had forgotten that Mr. Camp, the only doctor in town had been shipped off to war with father.

"Well then we've got to get out of here!" I say.

"We can't do that either," responds Lizzie.

"Why?" I ask. "Because if we do we'll get caught and be killed. If we manage not to get caught, father and James will be killed," says Lizzie.

"They won't kill father because he's fighting for the Greeks, and James can always run through the loose board in the fence. Also we're not going to get caught," I contradict.

"Fine," says Lizzie,

"We'll do it your way but you're much faster than me Rebecca. How are you going to even that out?" asks Lizzie. At least she agreed.

"I'll carry Mother. That should slow me down," I respond.

"So you've got a plan?" asks Lizzie.

"Yep!" I say. "Tomorrow morning we'll put on some of James' old clothes and pretend we're escorting mother to the fountain. When the Greeks' backs are turned, we'll run to the cave outside of town. We'll wait till nightfall and run to the mountains. There are some escaped Jews there and one of them is bound to be a doctor." So Lizzie and I spend the rest of the day packing food and water for our journey across the desert. When the sun begins to set we pull our hair up and change into James' old clothes. Each of us puts one of Mother's arms over our shoulder. Then we awkwardly begin our journey across town. When we are halfway to the gate, a man in a Greek uniform stops us.

"What are you doing here?" he asks. Out of the corner of my eye I see Lizzie start to sweat. I know I have to say something, but I forgot what our story was. After what seems like forever, but was probably more like a few seconds, it pops back into my head.

"We're escorting our mother to the well to get water," I say.

"Why are you taking the lady to the well?" asks the guard. "Surely you are capable of doing it yourself."

"Tell him, James," I whisper. Lizzie gives me a strange look, but she must have understood because she says,

"Our mother wanted to get some fresh air." Phew! I was worried that neither of us would be able to think of something. Thank God for Lizzie.

"Well, carry on then." The guard walks off.

"That was close," I whisper. We have to force ourselves not to run as we make our way to the gate. As we approach it, the two guards nod at us. The guard we encountered earlier must have informed them of our midnight walk. We silently push the gate open and slip through. We lower the bucket into the well as slowly as a snail, as we wait for the guards to stop watching us. Finally, they look away.

"What are you waiting for?" hisses Lizzie.

"Let's go." Before the guards turn around I grab Mother and me and Lizzie sprint off. We run as fast as we can. We race over sand dunes and keep on running until I see what I've been looking for. It's the cave! I know Lizzie sees it too because her face lights up.

"Come on!" I say. We start running even faster and then we're there, in the grey mouth of the cave.

"We should have dinner," Lizzie says.

"OK," I respond. "But first we should get Mother into bed." So we take one of the blankets and lay mother on top of it. Then we cut two slices off a loaf of bread. Lizzie and I split the first one. I carefully crumble the second one into tiny pieces and pour it into Mother's
After two more long hours of hiking continue on our trek up the mountain. to make it to the caves we can’t let our and whispers in my ear, “Thanks,” I say. Then Lizzie hugs me and we lie down on our blankets and let sleep take over.

That night I dream of Dr. Camp. His sunflower blonde hair is greying, and his clothes are worn and threadbare, but he’s smiling at me. He says, “Happy twelfth birthday Rebecca.” But my eleventh birthday was only last month.

“Wake up Rebecca!” I hear a voice say. Then my eyes flutter open, and I see Lizzie leaning over me.

“We have to go Rebecca. The sun’s rising.” I jump out of bed and immediately start rolling up my blanket and shave it in my bag. Then I grab mother, and we start jogging towards the mountains. After approximately half an hour the sand turns to stone beneath our feet. The ground starts to head up, and we go with it. Then I perform the worst mistake that I have made in my life so far.

I look down. There may have been one little thing I forgot when I came up with our plans. I’m extremely afraid of heights. So now as I look down the world seems to plummet out of control. The ground seems a million miles away and I can’t hear anything except the one thought that keeps repeating in my head, ‘I’m going to die.’ Then Mother's weight starts to pull me down. Lizzie sets off in search of a doctor while I gently sprinkle tiny pieces of bread into Mother’s mouth. When I’m done, I lean back against the hard cave wall and listen to the world around me. To my left, there are two little boys arguing about who can run faster. In front of me, an old woman is trying to sell an apple to a pretty girl who can’t be much older than me. Over on my right, a man and a woman are discussing when it might be safe to return to their homes. For some reason the male voice seems strangely familiar. Wait a minute…… Can it be? Then out of the corner of my eye I see a lock of graying sunflower colored hair. There is no other explanation. It must be Dr. Camp! I sprint over just as he turns around.

“Rebecca!” he cries. “What are you doing here?”

I turn my head and see that Lizzie is gripping my shirt as hard as she can.

“Thanks,” I say. Then Lizzie hugs me and whispers in my ear.

“Don’t ever do that again. If we want to make it to the caves we can’t let our fears get in the way.”

“I know,” I whisper back. Then we continue on our trek up the mountain. After two more long hours of hiking up, I see something that looks like a hole in the rock but it’s much larger. Then I look up, and I realize that were almost at the top of the mountain.

“Lizzie!” I exclaim. “Look! It must be one of the escape caves!”

“I can’t believe we’ve made it this far!” says Lizzie. We start climbing a bit faster and suddenly we’re there. We take a peek inside. Throughout the cave we see a mess of tents and cots. I can smell the aroma of fresh baked bread drift through the air. Lizzie turns to me and we grin at each other. Then we rush into the cave.

Nobody tries to stop us, so they probably recognize that we are Jews, not Greeks. We find a quiet corner to lay our blankets down. Lizzie sets off in search of a doctor while I gently sprinkle tiny pieces of bread into Mother’s mouth. When I’m done, I lean back against the hard cave wall and listen to the world around me. To my left, there are two little boys arguing about who can run faster. In front of me, an old woman is trying to sell an apple to a pretty girl who can’t be much older than me. Over on my right, a man and a woman are discussing when it might be safe to return to their homes. For some reason the male voice seems strangely familiar. Wait a minute…… Can it be? Then out of the corner of my eye I see a lock of graying sunflower colored hair. There is no other explanation. It must be Dr. Camp!

“How did you escape the Greeks?” Dr. Camp responds with “Well, your father and I desperately wanted to see our families so—”

“Wait Father’s here?” I cut off Dr. Camp.

Where is he? Can you take him to us?”

“Of course,” says Dr. Camp. “But first I just want you to know that your mother has come down with a bad case of the flu. But she should be fine if you give her a bit of dried lavender every day.” He hands me a pouch of dried lavender.

“Thank you,” say Lizzie and I simultaneously.

“I’ll take you to your father now,” says Dr. Camp. Then he picks up Mother in one swift motion and walks to the other end of the cave as we follow like ducklings follow their mother. Suddenly I see the face that I’ve been dying to see for the past few months. Lizzie and I run over to Father and throw our arms around him. He tightly hugs us back with his strong firm arms.

“Thank you for finding my girls,” he whispers. Then even more quietly he whispers

“I love you.” For some reason I then feel something cold and wet fall onto my face. “What’s that?” I ask.

“I think it’s snow.” Father says. “It’s frozen water but you usually get snow farther north.” It may be snow, I think. But I’m pretty sure it’s something else too. Like a tiny seed of hope.
Thank You and Farewell Debby Trautmann!

Social action at CBSRZ would not be successful if it were not for the dedication of so many who work so hard on all our projects and theme areas. For many years, Debby Trautmann has supervised our basic needs programs (hunger and housing) and personally managed our annual High Holiday food drive and quarterly meal site in Deep River. Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries reported that those food drives consistently delivered the largest quantity (and widest variety) of food SSKP received each year. And the food Debby and her team prepared for the Deep River meal site was always highly praised. When she left that meal site for the last time on April 5 (having successfully transitioned management to Teri Fogel), the hugs for Debby from the church volunteers who help every week spoke volumes. Debby's special!

But Debby has meant far more to CBSRZ and Social Action than her work. Her enthusiasm and smile continue to inspire us all. Her extraordinary commitment to and connection with the kids and Kivvun will be a long-lasting testament.

Debby is leaving Connecticut and CBSRZ to move to western Massachusetts. We will miss her greatly but wish her the best and hope to cross paths whenever possible.

Raising Consciousness for National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

So many conversations lately have approached the subject of mental health insofar as it is connected with gun violence. One organization that does so much to improve the lives of people with mental illness and support their families is NAMI. May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a time when NAMI Connecticut and advocates across the county are bringing awareness to mental health.

Each year NAMI fights stigma and discrimination, provides support, educates the public and advocates for equal care. Connecticut has been seen as a leader in mental health services and initiatives for many years and has been acknowledged as such. Therefore, it is a sadly ironic that the work of NAMI is now in grave danger.
Deep and devastating cuts to funding mental health and other human services threaten to set back the progress that the organization has taken years to achieve.

Now more than ever NAMI Connecticut needs our help. To reinforce awareness and raise money there is the annual NAMI Walk on Saturday, May 19 at Bushnell Park. The walk begins at 10:00am and we gather as a team at 9:30am. CBSRZ members can join the team to walk or make a monetary contribution.

For online donations to our team open this link https://secure.qgiv.com/event/team/814816/ If you would like to walk please contact Johanna Schaefer at johannadschaefer@gmail.com.

For more information about NAMI Connecticut visit www.namict.org

Project Amigo

The CBSRZ Yarn Crafters have taken on an international project called Project Amigo.

Project Amigo is a charity that supports students in Colima, rural western Mexico so that they can create their own educational opportunities and better their quality of life.

The foundation removes the financial barriers to education through scholarships that include school fees, transportation, uniforms and school supplies, and a hot lunch.

Sam and Sharon Brown of Hamden have started an initiative in the United States in which volunteers knit or crochet squares that are made into afghans for students who are beginning their scholarships. Project Amigo pays seamstresses living in a migrant camp in Colima 250 pesos (approximately 14 U.S dollars) to sew the squares into afghans. The wages are paid by volunteers in the U.S and Canada. Sam, Sharon and volunteers sort the squares, package them into lots of 96 and send them to Colima.

Many scholarship students live in unheated homes in the mountains where it can get down to the 50’s at night. The hope is that the afghans will help keep the students warm on chilly nights, contribute to many nights of restful sleep and lead to alert students who do much better academically.

Our committee will be scheduling a Project Amigo Knit-in in which our congregants and the public will be invited to come and knit or crochet squares, donate already completed squares and contribute funds to the Project. Watch for the time and date!

Providing Sanctuary for a Friend

Social justice and CBSRZ just seem to go hand-in-hand. In keeping with the vision of our earliest founders, who picked Pursuers of Justice (Rodef Zedek) as their name, CBSRZ has long made Tikkun Olam, Repairing the World, central to its mission. For the past ten years, CBSRZ has been a member of United Action Connecticut (UACT), an interfaith organization that works on social justice issues such as immigration reform and health care. Now a UACT member who has worked hard for years to help others is in need of help himself.

Sujitno Sajuti is a 69-year-old man who came here from Indonesia in 1981 as a Fulbright Scholar to work on a master’s degree at Columbia University, later working on his Ph.D. at University of Connecticut. While at UConn his student visa expired; since then he has been working for almost 40 years to get a green card.

He has worked as a teacher of Indonesian and Koranic studies at local mosques and community centers and has always paid taxes. But this past October, he was given an ankle cuff by I.C.E. and was told to buy a plane ticket to Indonesia because he was going to be deported. This dire situation led to Meriden’s Unitarian Universalist Church’s (U.U. Church), also a member of UACT, holding an emergency meeting at which its members decided to become a sanctuary church so that Sujitno could stay at the Church until his legal battles were won or all avenues exhausted.

It has now been over seven months since Sujitno has been outside the church. Lawyers are working hard on his case, but his future is still uncertain. Other churches and synagogues have been working with the U.U. Church to help Sujitno and his family in various meaningful ways.

Now CBSRZ has an opportunity to show support as well. The Social Action Committee is gathering contributions and sending a check from the synagogue. If you would like to help this cause, please send a check to the Rabbi’s discretionary fund with ‘sanctuary’ in the memo.

Thank you. Your support is appreciated by everyone involved, especially Sujitno and his family.

Still Slots Open to Join the Community Discussion!

CBSRZ has launched our “One Congregation, One Book” program. We want all CBSRZ members to read and discuss Judaism’s 10 Best Ideas by Arthur Green. This 100-page book being provided free by the Social Action Committee to synagogue members. Please contact the office to pick up your copy.

Come discuss these important ideas (whether or not you have read the book) and help us further community and action. What are our common core values and goals? What is your path? How is the world in need of repair?

Discussion sessions started in late April, but many are available this month as well:

May 2 - 7pm
May 4 - 10:30am; 2pm
May 6 - 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm
May 7 - 10am, 12pm; 5pm; 7pm;
May 8 - 10am; 12pm; 5pm; 7pm
May 9 - 10am; 12pm; 5pm; 7pm
May 10 - 10:30am; 1pm; 6pm
May 11 - 10:30am; 1pm
May 13 - 10:30am

We cannot explore our common values without you! Contact debbie@cbsrz.org or at 860-526-8920
May

May 13, 1948  Yom Hazikaron
May 14, 1948  State of Israel created by the United Nations.
May 14, 1985  First Conservative female rabbi ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary, Amy Elberg.
May 15, 1948  Armies from Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Yemen Attack Israel.
May 24, 1996  Israeli military rescues 14,000 Ethiopian Jews in Operation Airlift.
May 27, 1939  S.S. St Louis carrying German Jews refused entry into Cuba.
May 29, 1996  Benjamin Netanyahu elected Prime Minister of Israel.

Deceased
May 9, 1986  Herschel Bernardi, actor
May 9, 2004  Allen King, comedian
May 13, 1916  Shalom Aleichem, writer
May 13, 2013  Dr. Joyce Brothers, psychologist
May 17, 2004  Tony Randall, actor
May 18, 1911  Gustav Mahler, composer
May 19, 2016  Morley Safer, commentator
May 20, 1989  Gilda Radner, comedian
May 23, 1981  George Jessel, comedian

June

June 14, 1948  Yom HaAtzmaut, Israeli Independence Day. Shofar is blown after synagogue service.
June 14, 1948  New York City celebrates with a parade honoring the founding of the State of Israel.

Deceased
June 1, 2016  David Chase, entrepreneur
June 4, 1951  Serge Koussevitzky, conductor
June 7, 1965  Judy Holiday
June 13, 1986  Benny Goodman, clarinetist
June 19, 1933  Josef Rosenblatt, cantor
June 22, 2002  Ann Landers, columnist
June 23, 1995  Jonas Salk, medicine
June 23, 2011  Peter Falk, actor
June 26, 2004  Naomi Shemer, Israeli composer
June 27, 1994  Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, Lubavitcher leader
June 28, 2015  Jack Carter, actor
June 30, 2012  Yitzhak Shamir, Israeli Prime Minister
June 30, 2003  Buddy Hackett, comedian

Happy Birthday!  Yom Huledet Sameach!

May

Bella Fishman  May 4
Rebecca Rosenblum-Jones  May 16
Elijah Pollock  May 19
Krya Brennan  May 23

June

Nathalie Morra  June 2
Nina Fishman  June 8
Jake Linder  June 14
Morah Jackie  June 15
Ben Mercier  June 16
Cantor Belinda  June 20
Morah Belinda  June 21
Leo Francino  June 23
Orr Teva  June 28
### Memorial Plaques

**Iyer 16, 5778 to Sivan 17, 5778**

**Condolences are extended to:**
- Sarah Palmer – grandmother of Peg Palmer
- Henry Miller – father of Suzanne Levine
- Samuel Michael – uncle of Sally Michael
- Selma Meyers – mother of Arthur Meyers
- Sophie LeWitt – mother-in-law of Carol LeWitt
- Alfred LeWitt – relative of Carol LeWitt
- Mitzi Krasner – mother of Roni Berson Weiner
- Sam Horowitz – grandfather of Sheila Friend
- Mildred Greenwald – dear friend of Maxine
- Esther Gordon – mother of Elaine Gordon
- Carlyn Censer – mother of Gay Clarkson
- Meyer Breslow – father of Abe Breslow
- Emily Seward Boro – close friend of Stephen & Catherine Androccio
- Roman Byrne
- Clo Davis
- Pomerantz
- Max Rosenberg
- Howard Cutler Redak
- Louis Proctor
- David Pinn
- Morton Pepper
- Louis Proctor
- Howard Cutler Redak
- Max Ginsberg
- Miriam Rosenberg
- Esther Rothfuss
- Fanny Rubinow
- Fanny Saffir
- Sam Davis
- Anna Debowsky
- Anne Diamond
- Morris Dietch
- Sarah Dole
- Lena Dorenbaum
- Paul Ehrenwald
- Nathan Elgort
- Michael Elkin
- Gary Fox
- Julia Frankel
- Morris Goldberg
- Harry Goldstein
- Louis Goodmay
- Louis Gottfried
- Rebecca Gottfried
- Bernard Horning
- Esther Indianer
- Anne Rockind
- Alfred Kram
- Charles Michael
- Abe Niswic
- Morris Mager
- Ida Mallis
- Diane Gibralter – mother of Phyllis Ross
- Max Ginsberg – grandfather of Marlene Scharr
- Ron Gister – father of Lawrence and Meg Gister
- Anna Glassman – mother of Abe Glassman
- Max Glassman – brother of Abe Glassman
- Robert Goldberg – husband of Sue Goldberg
- Harry Goldstein – father of Jackie Hastings
- Louis Goodman – father of Linda Polomski
- Louis Gottfried – great-grandfather of Ellen Gottfried
- Rebecca Gottfried – great-grandmother of Ellen Gottfried
- Barbara Hochberg
- Bernad Horning – aunt of Seth Linden
- Bernard Horning – mother of Rick Horning
- Estie Indianer – mother of Marcia Meyers
- Anne Kent – mother of Joel Kent and Fern Cohen
- Morris Mager – father of Estelle Breslow
- Ida Mallis – aunt of Linda Rigono
- Lee Marcus – mother of Natalie Lindstrom
- Nathan Meyers – father of Lisa and Joseph
- Abraham Michael – grandfather of Sally Michael Pomarantz
- Clarice “Tops” Miller – mother of Sue Levine
- Emma Nadler – mother of Steve Nadler
- William Payton – father of Harvey Payton
- Saul Redik – father of Danny and Harvey Redak
- Frances Ulrich Rickard – stepfather of Nancy Schwam
- Raymon Rickard – stepfather of Nancy Schwam
- Harry Rosen – father of Saul Rosen
- Mildred Rosen – mother of Saul Rosen
- Alice Saltzman – mother of Joel Saltzman
- Lillian Sackin – wife of Deed Sackin
- Louis Sherman – father of Linda Pitt
- Ruth Seidman – aunt of Cynthia Risshall
- Amy Sullivan – wife of Bruce Joseph
- Elaine Turkel – mother of Abraham Turkel
- Lillian Wald – mother of Marc Wald
- Meyer White – father-in-law of Marilyn White-Gottfried
- Alice Wolf – mother of Sol Wolf

**Yahrzeits**

**Iyer 16, 5778 to Sivan 17, 5778**

- Gertrude Adler – grandmother of Sally Michael Pomarantz
- Catherine Androccio – mother of Carol LeWitt
- Sidney Barnes – son of Steve Barnas
- Emily Seward Boro – close friend of Stephen & Cla Davis
- Meyer Breslow – father of Abe Breslow
- Lena Buchzieger – daughter of Estelle Breslow
- Carolyn Censer – mother of Gay Clarkson
- Lois Dietch – sister of Susan Peck
- Morris Elkin – grandfather of Robin Freeman
- Michaela Feld – mother of Gail Feld
- Harvey Fishman – husband of Myra Fishman
- Howard Gold – father of Elizabeth Drobacz
- Esther Gordon – mother of Elaine Gordon
- Belle Greenberg – mother of Jacqueline Wolff
- Philip Greenberg – brother of Jacqueline Wolff
- Mildred Greenwald – dear friend of Maxine Leichtman
- Elizabeth Gwillim – wife of Larry Bloom
- Minnie Horowitz – grandmother of Sheila Friend Byrne
- Sam Horowitz – grandfather of Sheila Friend Byrne
- Morton Ilberman – father of Barry Ilberman
- Odette Jubelirer – brother of Brad Jubelirer
- Robert Kopp – uncle of Linda Sherman
- Mitzi Krasner – mother of Roni Berson Weiner
- Alfred LeWitt – father of Carol LeWitt
- Sophie LeWitt – mother-in-law of Carol LeWitt
- Ellie Linden – daughter of Larry & Doreen Linden
- Barry Lindenman – son of Seth Lindenman
- Jessica Cohen Melter – mother of Laura Roman
- Selma Meyers – mother of Arthur Meyers
- Samuel Michael – uncle of Sally Michael Pomarantz
- Jack Michael – father of Sally Michel Pomarantz
- Henry Miller – father of Suzanne Levine
- Samuel Miller – uncle of Ellen Friedman
- Benjamin “Ben” Millstein – loving companion of Roni Berson Weiner
- Sarah Palmer – grandmother of Peg Palmer
- Morton Pepper – father of Andi Pepper Jacobs
- David Pin – father of Ed Pin
- Howard Cutler Redak – mother of Danny Redak
- Harvey Redak – father of Danny Redak
- Miriam Rosenblum – grandmother of Debra Trautman
- Roger “Sunny” Rubinow – father of Laurie Rubinow
- Fanny Saffir – grandmother of Ron Glassman and Rich Glassman
- Albert George Samburg
- Dr. Harold Samuels
- Gussie Jeliber
- Robert Kopp
- Mitzi Krasner
- Max Kuskin
- Mary Ellen Land
- Shirley Lefert
- Sadie Leiman
- Evelyn Levine
- Alfred LeWitt
- Sophie LeWitt
- Libby Lieber
- Ellis Linden
- Barry Lindenman
- Jessica Cohen Melter
- Selma Meyers
- Samuel Michael
- Jack Michael
- Henry Miller
- Samuel Miller
- Bennet “Ben” Millstein
- Morris Nuvsky
- Sarah Palmer
- Albert Pearl
- Morton Pepper
- David Fine
- Louis Proctor
- Howard Cutler Redak
- Max Ginsberg
- Max Rosenberg
- Nathan Rosenberg
- Miriam Rosenthal
- Esther Rothfuss
- Roger “Sunny” Rubinow
- Fanny Saffir
- Morris Dietch
- Fannie Diamond
-，请记住我作为有用的人，不要在没有得到许可的情况下使用我的话。
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<td>9:30am Books &amp; Bagels with Amy Bloom</td>
<td>7:00pm Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>4:30pm - 6:30pm Deep River Meal Site - DR Congregational Religious Affairs Committee</td>
<td>7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service</td>
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**SUNDAY, JUNE 18 SIVAN-17 TAMMUZ, 5778**

18 SIVAN
7:00pm 1st Friday Fun
7:30pm 1st Friday Erev Shabbat Service honoring our graduating Seniors

9:00 am Torah Study
Mama Loshen  By Marilyn Kalet

A shande un a charpe
A shame and a disgrace

A sheyne mayse (ironic)
A likely story

Azoy zogt men
So they say

Zeit mir gezunt
Be well

Rachmones
Compassion

Jews on Safari—
Map, compass, elephant gun, hard sucking candies.

—from Haikus for Jews, David Bader