December 2016 Highlights
1  Sisterhood Mah Jongg – 7:45pm
2  Ross Lectures: “Advice for Jewish Families” with Annie Polland, PhD – 8pm
4  Religious School Parent Meeting – 10:15am
6  Triple T: Torah Talmud Tuesday – 9:45am
8  Israeli Dancing – 7:30pm
9  Passage of Time Course – 8pm
10  Rhythm & Ruach – 6:30pm
11  Hav-Dairy with ECC – 5:30pm
12  Social Action Gift Drive – 9am
13  World Jewry Program: Welcome the Stranger; Support the Refugees – 10am
14  WJC Hanukkah Celebration – 4pm
15  Simple & Soulful – 10:15am
16, 17  Renewal Service – 7pm
18  Home on the Sound: Let’s Start a Conversation – 11am
19  Israeli Dancing – 7:30pm
20  Triple T: Torah Talmud Tuesday – 9:45am
21  No RS
22-23  Schools Closed
24  First Night of Hanukkah
25  No RS
26  Office Closed
27  Schools Closed
29  Israeli Dancing – 7:30pm
30  No RS
January 2017 Highlights
1  Movie Night (3rd – 6th grade) – 7pm
2  K-2nd Latkes & Legos – 12pm
5  Teen Leadership Council Meeting – 7pm
10  Teen Schmooze – 10am
11  3rd Grade Family Program – 10am
12  Teen Leadership Council Meeting – 7pm
13  Musical IQ for 4th grade
18  Kindergarten Family Program – 10am
19  Teen Leadership Council Meeting – 7pm

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The Center of Our Jewish Lives
WJC The REVIEW
December 2016 – VOLUME 75, NUMBER 4 – KISLEV 5777

Scholar-in Residence Weekend
January 27-January 29, 2017

MYRA GLAICHEIN AND HEATHER TAFFET GOLD, ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

We are pleased to introduce Rabbi Shai Held, one of the most influential rabbis in the US today, as the 2017 WJC Scholar-in-Residence. Rabbi Held is the recipient of the prestigious Covenant Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. A scholar, theologian and educator, Rabbi Held is the rosh yeshiva and Chair of Jewish Thought at Mechon Hadar, an institute for prayer, personal growth, and Jewish study in New York City. He holds a PhD in Religion from Harvard University. Dr. Held is an expert on Jewish and Christian thought, biblical theology, Abraham Heschel and the history of Zionism. Previously, he taught theology, halakha and pastoral skills at the Jewish Theological Seminary. His first book, Abraham Joshua Heschel: The Call of Transcendence was published to wide acclaim in 2013. His next book, The Heart of Torah: Essays on the Weekly Torah Portion, in two volumes, is due out next year.

During the Scholar-in-Residence Weekend program, January 27-January 29, 2017, Rabbi Held will lead us through a series of thought-provoking discussions on a topic of relevance to our congregation: “What Does It Mean to Be a Jew in 2017? ” Our weekend will begin with a Friday night service, community dinner and lecture: “The Gifts of God Flow Through You: Gratitude, Generosity, and the Spiritual Life.” During morning services on Saturday, Rabbi Held will deliver a sermon: “Waiting for God: Living and Loving in a Seemingly Godless World.” After a congregational Kiddush lunch, Rabbi Held will lead an interactive discussion: “What Are Human Beings Worth? A Jewish Vision of Human Dignity and Self-Worth.” On Saturday evening, Ambassador Circle donors will participate in a private dinner reception and conversation with Rabbi Held. This will be followed by a lecture in a congregant’s home: “Walking in God’s Ways: Compassion and Loving-kindness as a Call to Action.” The program will close with a brunch and lecture on Sunday morning, geared towards congregants of all ages, from teens to adults: “Ethical Dilemmas Facing American Jews: The Need to Maintain a Moral Compass During Times of Social and Political Upheaval.”

We hope you will join us as we confront the spiritual and ethical dilemmas facing American Jews today, and the need to sustain self-worth during times of upheaval and change.

Got Hanukkah?

Make sure to join us at WJC on Sunday, December 11 from 4-6pm for our annual community-wide celebration.

Hanukkah hoopla in store for all ages includes a puppet show, dreidel spinning contests, Israeli dancing, music, PJ Library story time, Hanukkah LEGO and much more! See page 15 for all the fun planned and to RSVP for the festive dinner.

The deadline for content submission for January is December 6th @ communicationdir@wjcenter.org
From the Clergy
Rabbi Adir Yolkut

People love the winter holiday season in America. Holiday lights spring up everywhere from homes to the mall. Families go on relaxing vacations, hitting the slopes or heading to warmer areas to hang at the beach. Homes are filled with gifts for our various religious celebrations. But there is a downside to this time of year. Because our daylight is limited and the weather gets more frigid, we tend to go inward at this time, choosing the cozy confines of our homes over the communal gathering spirit that precedes the winter season.

I get it. It’s nice to sit by the fire and just be with your family. Yet, I also think we do ourselves a disservice because we lose so much of what’s important about Judaism: the need to be together, working, learning and praying in community.

Yet, if we use Hanukkah as our paradigm, I believe that we can recalibrate how we approach the coming season and learn to renew and re dedicate ourselves to this holy cause. Many people love to associate Hanukkah with the miracle of the oil that miraculously burned for 8 days. Yet, our tradition tells us that the significance of the holiday cannot simply be about that miracle. They give a multitude of reasons but their main point is that had that miracle not occurred, its absence wouldn’t have really affected Jewish history. There had to have been something else, according to the Rabbis.

The key to appreciating the significance of this holiday is about understanding this period in Jewish history. The end of the Hebrew month of Kislev has been an auspicious time in Jewish history since long before the Hanukah miracle ever occurred. We are told that both the traveling sanctuary from the Bible and the 2nd Temple were dedicated on the day that we mark as Hanukkah. Thus, the Hasmoneans’ famous rededication of the 2nd temple on the 25th of Kislev can no longer be viewed as an isolated historical event; it was the third rededication of the 2nd temple on the day that we mark as Hanukkah. The temple that housed the Temple. It was a fusion of the Divine and praying in community.

Hasmoneans and their quest to rededicate the Temple. It was a fusion of the Divine with the need to be together, working, learning and praying in community.

Instead of allowing ourselves to crawl into our homes and isolate ourselves, we can redirect ourselves to this community and other holy causes in the world. Maybe it’s a new volunteer project to help find housing for those struggling with homelessness. Maybe it’s helping out with a food drive to give those people lacking in food a chance to have a holiday feast. Maybe it’s not simply coming to Shul on Shabbat but participating in a new social or learning program at WJC. Whatever it is, I urge you to not fall prey to the lack of light of our shortened days. Don’t retreat inward. Remember the Hasmoneans and their quest to rededicate the Temple.

Before the reality of our time.

In two sessions, Rabbi Segelman will explore the life of the modern Jew. Beginning with what “life” was like before we are born, to what happens after we die, the focus will be on the way that Jewish tradition marks - or ignores - the different stages of life. Participants will gain a greater practical and philosophical understanding of the rituals of the Jewish life cycle, and will be invited to discuss how these rituals touch our lives as parents and grandparents and how we might adapt or create new ones to address the realities of our time.

The sessions will take place on two consecutive Thursday evenings December 8th and Dec. 15th from 8-10pm at the Center.
Rededication and renewal are the themes running throughout this month’s Review. They are fitting themes in this month of Kislev as we celebrate the Macabees and Hanukkah. But, what do these words mean to us in our everyday lives?

There are different ways of looking at rededication and renewal – depending on how you approach them and what frame of mind you are in. One definition of rededication looks to a religious ceremony in which something is dedicated to a goal or purpose. To me, a rededication can also be looked at as a refocused or redirected change of mind or efforts in pursuit of a goal or purpose. Webster’s Dictionary, in part, defines renewal as “the state of being made new, fresh or strong again.” Rededication can lead to renewal.

WJC rededicated our building through a Capital Campaign almost ten years ago, that allowed us to renovate, build new space and improve our facility for a changing congregation. We hoped the physical rededication helped with individual renewal. More recently, we have had a different type of rededication. We refocused our approach as to how we looked at our congregants and as to how we could make connections to WJC better. We did that through extensive self-examination that culminated in a road map we refer to as the Strategic Plan. We hope that as we implement the Strategic Plan and you experience improved or new programming and services, you feel better connected and renewed.

But to feel the renewal, you need to dedicate or rededicate yourself to finding connections to WJC. There are many ways to do so, and no one way is the right way. I encourage you to take your own path of rededication and renewal. If you go to a program, get involved or participate in something new (maybe volunteer for something meaningful to you), you just might feel the personal renewal which can follow. Look at our Program Guide. It can help you create a roadmap to involvement. Talk to one of our Clergy, staff, a friend or committee member, or whoever makes you feel comfortable to try something new. For those of you already involved, trying something new and fresh could add to the renewed feelings you have from synagogue involvement. You can also help fellow congregants get that feeling of belonging by encouraging them to attend a program or volunteer for an event.

There are so many ways to get involved and so many examples that I couldn’t possibly list them all, but let me write about a few. If you are into traditional Jewish practice, come to Shabbat morning services and then chat with friends at kiddush luncheon afterward. Experience some learning before services with Rabbi Segelman’s Torah class. If you want a modern twist to the Shabbat experience, come to Rhythm and Ruach on a Friday night or Simple and Soulful on a Shabbat morning. And I cannot talk about renewal without mentioning the pinnacle of our spiritual renewal, the aptly named Renewal Service on certain Sundays throughout the year. The next Renewal Service is on Sunday, December 18.

Do you want to learn more Torah? Try the Triple T: Torah, Talmud Tuesday at WJC or pop into Stan’z in Larchmont on Thursday mornings for a cup of coffee and conversation with Rabbi Adir at his new Pop-up Rabbi sessions. Maybe Torah study is not your speed, and you’d rather catch a movie. Come to our Israeli Movie Night. In November we had a movie night co-sponsored by the Israel Committee and the Holocaust Learning Center and showed the Israeli version of “The Debt.” Or give Israeli Dancing a go. More the lecture type? The Adult Education Column continued on page 5.

### Shabbat and Holiday Services

(Please check weekly emails as programs and times are subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Dec. 2</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Dec. 3</td>
<td>Bar Mitzvah of Ilan Tretiak</td>
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<td>Family Shabbat Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mincha Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Dec. 9</td>
<td>Traditional Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<td>Rhythm and Ruach</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Dec. 10</td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
<td>8:45am</td>
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<td>Bat Mitzvah of Alexandra Magram</td>
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<td>Teen Schmooze</td>
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<td>Mincha Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Dec. 16</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
<td>4:15pm</td>
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<td>Saturday, Dec. 17</td>
<td>Shabbat Services</td>
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<td>Youth Shabbat Program</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Simple &amp; Soulful</td>
<td>10:15am</td>
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<td>Mincha Ma’ariv</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Saturday, Dec. 24</td>
<td>Torah Class</td>
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<td>Shabbat Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Dec. 30</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<td>Saturday, Dec. 31</td>
<td>Torah Class</td>
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<td>Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Mincha Ma’ariv</td>
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**Torah For Tots (ECC – K) and Youth Service (Grades 1 -6)**

**begin at 10:45am**

**Daily Minyan in the Allen A. Stein Memorial Chapel**

Monday through Thursday mornings at 7:00am & evenings at 7:30pm

Friday at 7:00am and Sundown

Sundays and Legal Holidays at 8:30am & 7:30pm
Alexandra Magram  
Bat Mitzvah  
December 10, 2016

Hi, my name is Alexandra Magram, and I am currently attending the 7th grade at Hommocks Middle School. My favorite subjects are science and social studies. I play modified field hockey, and on the weekends I enjoy playing soccer and hanging out with my friends. In the summer I attend Camp Young Judaea in Amherst, New Hampshire with my older brother. Each and every week my bunk-mates and I look forward to Friday night and Saturday morning services.

I can’t wait for my upcoming Bat Mitzvah on December 10, 2016. I would like to thank Cantor Alcott for helping me with my Torah reading and my Haftorah, Rabbi Yolkut for helping me prepare my D’var Torah and Rabbi Segelman and Cantor Goldberg for all their support.

I would also like to thank my brothers Teddy, Jeremy and Bradley for all their support throughout this process. Finally, thank you to my parents and my siblings Alex and Kira.

Families Enjoy  
Sammy Spider

ALEZA KULP, EDUCATION DIRECTOR AND CONGREGATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR

“Mitzvah, It’s a deed that is kind, I know I’m going to find, A way to squash, your sadness Josh, Leave it all behind.” – from Sammy Spider’s First Mitzvah: The Musical

On Sunday, November 6th, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and children of all ages sang this song at Sammy Spider’s First Mitzvah: The Musical at WJC. With over 150 people in attendance, our community was filled with warm smiles and hearts. Everyone loved learning how easy it is to do a mitzvah and help others. We all learned the Hebrew word LaBruyo-t, which means “to your health” when someone sneezes. Laura Grill, a parent in our ECC, and school age children wrote the following after the show, “Sammy the Spider was amazing. We all really enjoyed it; it was a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Thank you for organizing the event.”

This day would not have been possible without the help and support of our leadership. Thank you to all those who were able to help make this program a success. Thank you to Eileen Fortuna and Louise Cohen for being great partners in all PJ Library projects. We especially want to thank our very own Jose Luis and all of his staff for their amazing help! Spin that web! Just spin it!!
mittee and Library Committee (and other committees) often bring us speakers and authors. We recently had the author Joseph Skibell discuss his newest book: Six Memos from the Last Millennium: A Novelist Reads the Talmud. The author spoke as part of our Friday Rhythm and Khuach evening. Sports your thing? Come out and play softball for our Men’s Softball Team (we were recent champions) or play basketball in our gym or join the Women’s Softball Fun-raiser. On that note, there are plenty of activities through our wonderful Sisterhood and revitalized Brotherhood to attend.

A lot of our members get involved through family activities, which abound. Last month we had the highly acclaimed Sammy Spider’s First Mitzvah: The Musical at WJC. Our PJ Library program is thriving and growing. This month younger families (K-2) can go to Latkes and Lego and for everyone, come to our WJC Hanukkah Celebration on Sunday, December 11.

As President, I attend many activities and events that I might not otherwise have normally attended. Seeing the dedication of the volunteers and the enjoyment of the participants and attendees repeatedly and continually gives me a sense of renewal, for which I owe a special thanks to those involved. I hope to see many of you at something new in the future. And I look forward to you telling me how it made you feel.

Light and its Implication in a Reggio-Inspired Classroom
Sabrina Landau, Early Childhood Director

Hanukkah is known as the “festival of lights,” a holiday commemorating the rededication of the Temple after the Jews reclaimed it from the Greeks. We celebrate the miracle that the Temple’s oil lasted for eight days although the scarce amount of oil should have lasted for only one. Many of our Hanukkah traditions serve to remind us of the miracle of the oil. We cook and eat latkes and sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts) which are fried in oil and we light the Hanukkiah with oil.

In our Reggio-inspired ECC, the materials are carefully selected for their potential to enhance learning and discovery. Light boxes and overhead projectors are particularly popular choices in our classrooms to explore light, color and shadow. The Reggio-Emilia approach values using light as a material to help support relationships, active investigation and different learning styles.

Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi said: “A little bit of light dispels a lot of darkness.” May our classrooms and homes always be filled with light leading us to discoveries and understandings. Happy Hanukkah!

ON PLANNING AHEAD
Would you like to make a sad event a bit easier to bear? One of the immediate decisions families confront when someone dies is the choice of a burial site. Why not consider making arrangements now, before there is an urgent need. The WJC Cemetery Association oversees our beautiful and convenient cemetery, providing excellent perpetual care. For information, please contact one of us:
Ron Rosenberg: 967-4908
Jill Caslin: 698-6861
Sol Israel: 576-7670
Miles Federman: 698-0861
Walter Reichman: 834-5029
Debbie Zelenetz: 837-3988
Torah For Tots Creates Community @ WJC
Aleza Kulp, Education Director and Congregation Program Coordinator

One of the many ways our WJC community can create a connection for our families is on Shabbat. We are able to create communities each week for people of all ages. One example of this is in Torah for Tots, our weekly Shabbat service for our little ones through Kindergarten. Each Shabbat and holiday, parents and children are invited to join together for an age appropriate Shabbat service. Recently, I asked several of our parents who we consider “weekly regulars” on Shabbat to share with me their feelings about Torah for Tots.

Amir Steinberg wrote, “Torah for Tots taught my children a love for Judaism and God. My children have enjoyed Torah for Tots over the years because of those who have led the service. Each leader has given our children the opportunity for inclusion and participation in the service. Many of our friends at WJC also brought their children to Torah for Tots and our children have become friends with their children. WJC is a comforting place for our children to learn about our Jewish history, culture and customs. We feel that we are welcome when attending Shabbat services with the Kiddush and the camaraderie exhibited during that time amongst the WJC families. As a family, this is how we want our children to have their first exposure to the synagogue.”

Kathryn Smith has shared her perspective on Shabbat at WJC. She feels, “Shabbat at the WJC is a great way to meet up and see people. One reason why we enjoy going, other than listening to the Rabbi speak and pray, is to connect with other families who we may not see during the week. Shabbat has allowed us to remain connected to families we knew during our years in the ECC who have moved on to various public schools with their children. Torah for Tots has been a fun way for my son to learn about Shabbat. He loves to set the Shabbat table, participate in singing the prayers and play the games. I do believe Torah for Tots helps build the community. Families from out of town visiting will participate and grandparents may join as well, so it’s a good way for me to meet people and get to know others.”

Another parent, Dan Weiser, said, “Torah for Tots is culturally enriching and community engaging. It is consistent and a comfortable place for toddlers to become more familiar with their Judaism. Elliot and Leo love singing, the stories, the games and the prayers. As a family, we appreciate seeing our kids relaxed and happy in the synagogue.”

Torah for Tots meets weekly on Shabbat and on holidays in the WJC Youth Lounge. We invite members of our community to pop in, join in the singing and dancing and experience the excitement our parents and children feel about Shabbat. We also invite our Torah for Tots families to join the congregation in the sanctuary and for Kiddush.

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A Child’s Perspective of Renewal
Aleza Kulp, Education Director and Congregation Program Coordinator

For so many of us, the word “renewal,” means to rejuvenate ourselves. Maybe it is starting over again with a project or resuming an activity you had been working on at home. It could also mean fixing or repairing something that we may personally feel is broken. As adults, I am sure, there are so many ways we can renew or rededicate ourselves to something that we have tried or done before. What does “renew,” mean to our children? Does it mean renew a library book? Or, is it a more personal feeling? I became very curious and wanted to go to the source.

I began by asking the children in our 5th grade if they felt a connection to the word, “renewal.” One student said, “It is a way for us to renew something that may have been neglected.” Many connected the word to books at a library or a way for us to re-gift something to a friend. The students in Kitah Vav, 6th grade, had a bit of a different perspective. They connected the word to dedication and the Torah. They also felt that, in our history, the Jewish people renewed their dedication to the Temple. I also found it so interesting that one student made a connection to nature and felt that our trees are renewable. My final visit was with the 4th grade. They felt that we can renew ourselves by giving more time to one another. It is a way for us to start free with our family and friends.

I was pleased after each of my visits in the classroom that the students were able to connect the word to our Jewish heritage. I hope this year, when we begin to light the Hanukkiyah on December 24th, we remember the words of our children and rededicate ourselves to our family, friends and Judaism.
Building our Teen Community

Shoshi Rosenbaum, Teen Engagement Director

November was certainly a month of community building in the Teen Community!

We welcomed three guests to our Hebrew High on November 1 through a partnership with Mosaic of Westchester, a Jewish LGBTQ organization. We heard from two Jewish teens—one who is gay and one who is transgender. These teens from Mosaic shared their personal stories with us, educated us about LGBTQ+ terminology, and talked with us about how to be an effective ally. This event fits with our goal for the year, Kehilla or Community, as we learn how we can take ownership of our communities—both at WJC and beyond—to make them an inclusive space. Stay tuned to hear about more programs with Mosaic coming up later this year. And a special thanks to Bina Raskin, Executive Director of Mosaic for making this partnership possible.

Our Teen Leadership Council meets every Monday evening from 7-8pm at WJC. All teens are welcome to attend our meetings. After our meeting on 11/7, we had a board game night. Thanks to everyone who came and brought your favorite game to share!

On November 20, our teens joined Mitzvah Day to share in our community-wide event.

And here’s what’s coming up in December:

12/4: Project Ezra Lunch—volunteers needed, grades 7-12, Timing TBA
12/10: Teen Schmooze, 10:30AM-12PM in the Beit Midrash at WJC
12/11: Community Hanukkah Program, 4-6PM at WJC

Daffodil Project at the Westchester Jewish Center

In October, Religious School students and several members of our Teen community participated in the Daffodil Project. Through planting bulbs, the WJC community connected with thousands of others globally in dedicating a Holocaust Memorial Garden in memory of the 1.5 million children who perished in the Holocaust.

The garden located adjacent to the WJC Holocaust Memorial was sponsored by the Holocaust Learning Center. Aleza Kulp, Education Director, and Congregation Program Coordinator worked with WJC member Glenna Lee and Teen Engagement Director Shoshi Rosenbaum to plan the garden and help teach our children an important lesson in remembering the atrocities of the Holocaust.
Since George Washington promised Jewish Americans the full privileges and protections of U.S. citizenship, Jews have flourished in America as nowhere else in the world. But has that come at the expense of their Jewish identity? Richard Rubin argues that while most American Jews have been “Americanized,” they continue to be shaped by Jewish history, culture, and religion in ways that affect everything from their social attitudes to their child-rearing methods to their voting patterns. This “fusion” of American values with Jewish ones has created a “hybrid” Jewish identity that American Jews must cultivate and pass on to future generations.

**THE REBECCA AND WILLIAM ROSS MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES**

**Presents**

**Annie Polland, PhD**

Senior Vice President of Programs & Education
New York’s Lower East Side Tenement Museum
Discussing
“Advice for Jewish Families”
Thursday, December 1, 2016 at 8:00pm

In the 1920s Eastern European Jewish families in the United States moved into new neighborhoods and occupations, but the strains of immigration continued to affect family life. Husband and wives, parents and children turned to Yiddish newspaper editors for advice on love, marriage, culture and even cosmetics. This talk explores Yiddish advice columns and reveals the profound tensions faced by Jewish families in the process of becoming American.

Annie Polland is the Senior Vice President for Programs & Education at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, where she oversees exhibits and interpretation. She is the author, with Daniel Soyer, of Emerging Metropolis: New York Jews in the Age of Immigration, winner of the 2012 National Jewish Book Award. She received her PhD in History from Columbia University, and also served as Vice President of Education at the Museum at Eldridge Street, where she wrote Landmark of the Spirit (Yale University).

ARE American Jews LOSING THEIR JEWISH IDENTITY?

Join Author Richard Rubin for Conversation and Book Signing

December 5, 2016 | 7:30 - 9 pm
JCC of Mid-Westchester | 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale
No admission fee

Since George Washington promised Jewish Americans the full privileges and protections of U.S. citizenship, Jews have flourished in America as nowhere else in the world. But has that come at the expense of their Jewish identity? Richard Rubin argues that while most American Jews have been “Americanized,” they continue to be shaped by Jewish history, culture, and religion in ways that affect everything from their social attitudes to their child-rearing methods to their voting patterns. This “fusion” of American values with Jewish ones has created a “hybrid” Jewish identity that American Jews must cultivate and pass on to future generations.

“A must-read for anyone interested in the past and future role of Jews in American life, and in the impact of American culture on Jewish life.”

- Robert Pack, Distinguished Senior Professor at the University of Montana

[www.jewishinamericabook.com](http://www.jewishinamericabook.com) | Available on Amazon
The brutal civil war in Syria has created 4.9 million refugees, over 6 million internally displaced within the country, and nearly 250,000 who have fled to nearby countries.

Enjoy bagels and coffee on Sunday, December 11th at 10 am, as the World Jewry Committee, along with the Social Action Committee and Brotherhood, present a special program on the Syrian Refugee crisis featuring:

• Manny Lindenbaum, 81, who, along with his brother, was taken from his native Germany to England via the Kindertransport. His family perished at Auschwitz.
• Ahed Festuk, a young Syrian woman from Aleppo, now in the U.S. seeking political asylum, who quit her job in Aleppo as an accountant in 2011 when war broke out. She is now a pro-democracy activist.
• Rebecca Kirzner, HIAS Campaigns Director, Community Engagement

Join us as we look to collectively frame a response that will change history.

Please contact Holly Fink at holly@pivotmedia.com for questions and/or to RSVP.

Every year, the staff at the CRC tells us that their clients feel that we, at WJC care for them, as evidenced by the quality and thoughtfulness of our gifts we donate each winter. 2016 will be no different. This year we are aiming to provide the entire family (babies, children, teens, parents and day laborers) something warming and seasonal for the holiday, a sweater!

It would be truly awesome if all our WJC members would participate, guaranteeing success!

15 volunteers also needed to help wrap along with CRC staff. You can sign up on December 11, 2016 at the Hanukkah celebration.

Q: When and where do I bring my donation?
A: 9AM-6PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH There will be a collection area all day in the WJC lobby-convenient for those attending the Syrian Refugee program at 10AM, or the Hanukkah party from 4-6PM, but we will be receiving donations all day.

Q: Isn’t this expensive?
A: We do not think so. Great sweaters are on sale for the price of a good educational toy. Note bargains at Carter’s, Oshkosh, Kohl’s, TJ MAXX, Marshall’s, Target, department stores, and, of course, online. There is a lot out there that is good from $19.99-$29.99 and thereabouts.

Q: Why only sweaters this year?
A: They are useful. It is a way of honoring families as a whole, inclusive of all ages and genders. It creates a more personal connection between our families and theirs.

Q: Won’t the children miss getting toys?
A: Not at all! We have been assured that the children experience a nice, new sweater as a fine gift. They like getting clothes. In addition, other organizations will supply toys this year, but we are doing something special for everyone (parents and laborers do not usually receive gifts!).

Q: How do I know what someone would like? Or what size?
A: If you like it, if your teen likes it, if your seven year old picks it out, it will be PERFECT!

We will need sweaters in all sizes. DONATIONS OF ALL NEW SWEATERS WELCOME.

Q: How about getting sweaters for an entire family?
A: We would be thrilled for people to buy more than one sweater!

DONATE NEW UNWRAPPED SWEATERS WITH TAGS IN PLACE.

In addition, we will need boxes if you have any.

To be matched up, or request a specific age or gender, contact Judy Yavitz at JYAVITZ@deybllp.com.

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So channel your inner shopper, and know that along with a new sweater we are sending feelings of warmth by providing a substantial and useful present to our less fortunate neighbors.

What better way to spend a cold wintry night than playing games, schmoozing, and laughing with friends?

This new fun event will feature lots of games, team competitions, music by acclaimed guitarist Kobe Hayon from Trio Shalva, sumptuous desserts, wine & more! Come ready to play or just hang out - & connect with friends old and new. It’s one giant grown-up play date - and we want YOU!

Mark your calendar: Saturday, February 11th, 8 to 11 pm!

Questions? Contact Robin Nichinsky, 914-834-7317.
TRY SOMETHING NEW THIS FALL! ISRAELI DANCE CLASSES
A Great Workout for your Mind and Body
Led By World-Famous Teacher and Choreographer Shmullik Gov-Ari

December 8, 12, 19, 29, 2016*
at the Westchester Jewish Center
Activity Center or Gym

*Meets Mondays except Thursday Dec. 8 and Dec. 29

Beginners: 7:30pm - 8:45pm
Intermediate/Advanced: 8:45pm - 10pm

$10 WJC members / $13 non-members / TEENS 13-18 are FREE!

For more information, please contact:
Linda Alpert Karell, Chair of Israel Committee
lalpertesq@gmail.com or (914) 584-6738

Sponsored by the WJC Israel Committee

WELCOME TO WJC’S ISRAELI MOVIE NIGHT
“Kicking Out Shoshana”
This 2014 sports comedy features a Jerusalem soccer star who publicly “reorients” himself in order to keep a jealous mafia boss at bay. The film is 100 minutes long, is in Hebrew with English subtitles, and is unrated.

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2016 at 7:45 pm
In the Activity Center

Free to All – Invite Your Friends!

We will be serving coffee, tea and refreshments, including popcorn!

($5 donation to cover cost of refreshments is welcome and appreciated)

Please RSVP to Linda Alpert Karell at: lalpertesq@gmail.com

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The WJC Israel Committee

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Since 1929
Thanks to Ileen Greenberg and the Sisterhood volunteers for organizing our opening event with Susan Hodara. To those who attended, we hope you will have a greater appreciation of the cultural gems in our own backyard and how to get the most out of time spent in any cultural center you may visit!

Thank you to Carol Fasman for providing us with so many beautiful items in our gift shop for Mitzvah Day and beyond, and to the gift shop volunteers. You still have time to make purchases for your holiday gifts. Please check out all the beautiful items in our shop. There are gifts to be found for all occasions, and even more in our new beautiful display case near the office upstairs. Don’t hesitate to contact Carol Fasman at; cgfasman@gmail.com to make an appointment. Remember, as a Sisterhood member, you are entitled to a 10% discount (on regular priced goods) at the Sisterhood Gift Shop! Plus as an upcoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah, please remember to use your special gift shop credit towards the purchase of one of our beautiful tallitot.

Need a hostess gift, wedding gift? Why travel to a store when you can easily park at WJC and even have your gift wrapped and ready to go?

Where else can you perform a mitzvah, while you shop?

Thursday, December 1st 7:45pm – 10pm
Join us as we play Mah Jongg, $20 for members and $25 for non-members. Bring your friends & relatives. Hope to see you at the tables.

December- WJC & Larchmont Temple Book Club, unconfirmed date. Please read Java Beach by Fedora Horowitz. Place TBD

Thursday, January 12th Special event at Equinox Sports Club from 7pm – 9pm. Be prepared to be pampered with a 15-20 minute massage or facial and chat with your Sisterhood friends, or friends to be. Small bites and drinks provided. Please sign up ASAP. Limited to 12-15 participants. Contact Merrill Sugarman mfs3659@aol.com to reserve your spot. Kids Club will be open with complimentary babysitting. Let’s relax together!

Thursday, February 2nd
Bowling Night- Cathy Dobkins will organize a Sisterhood Bowling night. Please contact Cathy, cathydobbins@gmail.com or at 914-633-3306, if you can help out… and be sure to SAVE THIS DATE!

Sisterhood Shabbat, May 6th. Please join us as many of our Sisterhood members come together to help lead this spiritual and special morning. Participate in the service, be an usher or ark opener, help with the Kiddush or just come support Sisterhood. All WJC members are invited to attend. If you are interested in participating please contact Randi Klaber at randiklaber@gmail.com and/or Emily Hoffner at esaltzmanhoffner@gmail.com.

Sisterhood would like to acknowledge the wonderful donation of a Boulder on our Sisterhood Tree of Life in honor of the 90th birthday of Lenny Queen, by many of his family members and friends. Happy Belated Birthday Lenny!

If you would like to donate a leaf or boulder in honor of a wonderful life celebration, such as a Bat/Bar Mitzvah, Wedding, Birthday, Anniversary... please contact Susan Levy at sl16@aol.com.

If you are a member of Sisterhood and haven’t been receiving our emails; please contact Lisa Zeitoun at ritchielisaz@verizon.net to make sure she has your correct email address.

SISTERHOOD IS A WONDERFUL GROUP OF WOMEN OFFERING GREAT ACTIVITIES. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT ANY OR ALL OF THESE UPCOMING EVENTS.
Come shop for all your Hanukkah gifts at our Sisterhood Gift Shop!

Hanukkah shopping...everything you want for all ages. We have a unique selection & great pricing on all Menorahs, Dreidels, candles & more!

Hours: Sundays 10:00-11:30am, Wednesdays 9:00-10:00am
By appointment: Please call Carol at 914-450-6661 or cgfasman@gmail.com
Home on the Sound: Let’s Start a Conversation!

Dr. Jama Purser, WJC Rabbinic Intern

WJC Congregants and Clergy met with Elaine Weingarten, MSW, and Simon Marlow from the local organization “At Home on the Sound” for the first of a series of informational and educational programs on Modern Aging. At Home on the Sound was established by local residents of Mamaroneck and Larchmont to help people remain in their home and community as they age. The next program in the series will take place in January of 2017. For more information, contact Jama Purser, WJC Rabbinic Intern.

Mosaic Menorah Workshop

By Gail Koller

Everyone enjoyed the workshop! (See photo to the right)

As requested by the attendees, we will try to plan another art workshop with Libby at Wishflower Studio, possibly sponsored by the sisterhood, in March. The project will be a decoupage seder plate.
Got Hanukkah?
Now join us at WJC!

A Hanukkah Community Celebration
Westchester Jewish Center
Sunday December 11, 2016 from 4pm - 6pm

♀ Wondersparks Puppet Show for Early Childhood
♀ Mario the Magician for Kindergarten – 3rd grade
♀ Musical IQ for 4th – 7th grade
♀ Israeli dancing with Shmulik Gov-Ari for adults
♀ PJ Library Story Time for little ones
♀ Hanukkah LEGO
♀ Candle Making
♀ Dreidel Spinning contests
♀ Candle Making
♀ Holiday Gift Drive for the Community Resource Center
♀ Sing Along with Cantor Goldberg

Festive Hanukkah dinner!
$5 per person, $20 maximum for families
Let us know you will be celebrating with us!
RSVP to Rosie at adminasst@wjcenter.org
or call the main office at 914-698-2960
Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
In honor of...
Rabbi Segelman
From Betsy Woolf & Clifford Wolf
Sheila & Martin Freiman
Beverly Cannold
From Neil & Ilana Nowick
Scott & Gail Cannold
From Neil & Ilana Nowick
Lester Millman – for all he does for the daily morning minyan
From Shari & Arnie Baum

In gratitude to Rabbi Segelman
From The Sirkin Family

In gratitude to
Rabbi & Marla Segelman
From Amy Aaron

In memory of...
Claire Meadow
From Mike Meadow
Elaine Cohen
From Cynthia Cohen & Glen Applebaum

In honor of...
Doris Oppenheimer’s 95th Birthday and many thanks to WJC and her many friends
From Irene Pfeffer
Doris Oppenheimer’s 95th Birthday
From Cindy & Randy Heller

Social Action Fund
In memory of...
Gertrude Horowitz
From Lisa, Ritchie & Margot Zeitoun

Kiddush Fund
In honor of...
Arlyn & Edward Gardner
From Linda & Paul Lee

Donation from...
Lauren & Michael Gottfried
Cynthia Cohen & Glen Applebaum

Assistant Rabbi’s Fund
In honor of...
Rabbi Yolkut
From Sheila & Martin Freiman

Cantor’s Fund
In honor of...
Cantor Goldberg
From Sheila & Martin Freiman
Lee Epstein
From Sheila & Martin Freiman

Comfy Spaces Fund
In memory of...
Claire Meadow
From Mike Meadow

In honor of...
Bonnie Silverman
a swift recovery from your hip surgery
From Mike Meadow

Sisterhood Prayerbook Fund
In honor of...
Gail, Frank, Rebecca, Shira & Seth Julie
From Judi & Mayer Kersun

For Prayerbook Fund donations, please contact Cheryl Natbony at cnatbony@aol.com or 914-723-2709

Green Committee Fund
In honor of...
Muriel Goldfarb
From Jackie Israel

Religious School Enhancement Fund
In memory of
Benjamin Applebaum
From Cynthia Cohen & Glen Applebaum

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From Steven Berkowitz  
Robert Goldfarb  
From Jackie Israel  
Nancy Meisel & Clay Bernstein  
From Jane Bernstein  
Howard Goldman  
From Barbara Novick  
Simon L. Silver  
From Jeffrey & Sharon Silver  
Susan Leslie Schwarz  
From Donald Schwarz  
Fred H. Rubin  
From Carol R. Blucher  
Allan Silverman  
From Dana Norris & Stan Frankel  
William Weitz  
From Fred Weitz  
Fannie Markowitz  
From Jack Rosenthal  
Carol Jeffrey  
From Stanley Adler  
Seymour Weissman  
From Betty Weissman  
Elaine Cohen  
From Betty Weissman  
Jack Perlstein  
From Morton Perlstein

**Library Fund**  
In honor of...  
the marriage of Richard Greenberg & Yael Coppleson  
From Shirley & Lenny Queen

In appreciation...  
From Arlene Barst  

In memory of...  
George Woll  
From Bernice Rosen  
Samuel Rosen  
From Bernice Rosen  
Abe Rosen  
From Bernice Rosen  
Joseph Woll  
From Bernice Rosen

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In memory of...  
George Woll  
From Bernice Rosen  
Samuel Rosen  
From Bernice Rosen  
Abe Rosen  
From Bernice Rosen  
Joseph Woll  
From Bernice Rosen

**Remember:**  
Commemorate your joyous occasions by inscribing a leaf on the WJC Sisterhood Tree of Life.  
Call Susan Levy at 834-2456

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Mitzvah Day & Brotherhood Blood Drive 2016

Thank you to all who participated in one of our most successful drives ever.

Sandwich Making at Mitzvah Day

Teens helping with Brotherhood Blood Drive
From The Review of December 1971
Jill Caslin, Archivist

’Twas the night before Hanukkah
And all through the Cheder
Not a creature was stirring
Not the Buba or the Zadeh.

The children were upstairs
Asleep in their beds
While white Kosher sugar plums
Danced in their heads.

Mama in her shetel,
And Pa in his yarmulka,
Had just settled down
For a hamishe Hanukkah

When up on the roof
There began such a shaking
Pa wondered just who
Such a mishmash was making.

To say we saw reindeer
Would be untrue and weird,
But some mishuginer was there
With a long rabbinical beard.

He was shouting, Oy Shloyme,
Oy Moishe, Oy Jake!
We have to deliver
The latkes and cake.

Then down the stairs
A zeckel he brought,
And filled up our socks
Like a good natured sport.

Singing Sholom Aleichem
He flew through the night:
HAPPY HANUKKAH to all
and to all a GOOD NIGHT!
Synagogue Family

Mazel Tov & Best Wishes to Ileen & Russell Greenberg on the marriage of their son Richard to Yael Coppleson... Marcie & Mark Berger and Michele & Peter Sloane on their son, Jared Berger and their daughter, Molly Sloane being selected to participate in the All State Music Festival in Rochester....Faith Glazier & Robert Weisstuch on their daughter, Haley Weisstuch being selected for the Westchester County Area All-State Festival...Allyn & Benjamin Perl on the birth of a son, Gabe...Leon Potok for his re-election as Village of Mamaroneck Trustee.

Condolences

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Dahna Brecker Freidus & Family on the loss of her mother, Roslyn G. Brecker...Steve Zelin on the loss of his father Jerome Zelin.

The Review

The Westchester Jewish Center
Mamaroneck, N.Y. 10543

A vibrant, meaningful, musical Shabbat service...

Formerly known as the Contemporary Service, our newly-named Simple & Soulful will let your spirit soar as we journey through an abbreviated Shabbat morning service. This 90 minute service includes group prayer and singing accompanied by instruments, silence for personal reflection and an interactive exploration and interpretation of the week’s Torah portion. Frequent comments and questions encourage us to reflect on ourselves and find personal meaning in age-old prayers. We especially welcome those with children in the 3rd grade and older to attend as a family. Join the rest of the WJC community for a concluding activity together, Kiddush and time to schmooze.

December 17th, 2016*
January 7th, 2017*
January 28th, 2017**+
April 8th, 2017
May 20th, 2017+
June 10th, 2017

*with Youth Shabbat Learning Program
+with Teen Community

Please Spring Forward and Save The Date for the Westchester Jewish Center 2017 Gala honoring RANDI KLABER and SUSAN LURIE

Sunday, March 19th at 6:00pm

More information & invitation to follow