February 2016 Highlights

1. Israeli Dance Class – 7:30pm
2. Gallery Opening Reception – 7:45pm
3. WJC Family Shabbat Service & Dinner – 6pm
4. Rhythm & Ruach – 7:30pm
5. Brotherhood World Wide Wrap – 8:30am
6. Social Action Community Craft Day – 12pm
7. Israeli Dance Class – 7:30pm
8. Israeli Movie Night: “Sallah” – 7:45pm
9. Jews Around the World: Greek Jewry – 8pm
10. Adult B’nei Mitzvah Class – 7:30pm
11. No RS
12. Presidents’ Day
13. Schools & Office Closed
14. No RS
15. Adult B’nei Mitzvah Class – 7:30pm
16-19 Schools Closed
20. No RS
21. Multi Faith Service – 3pm
22. Israeli Dance Class – 7:30pm
23. Contemporary Service – 10:15am
24. No RS (3rd-6th)
25. Israeli Dancing – 7:30pm

Youth Programs
6. Teen Schmooze – 10:30am
7. PJ Library Story Time & Sing-Along – 11am
8. K-2nd Grade Lunch – 12pm
9. 7th Grade Program (Out) – 5pm
10. PJ Library Story Time & Sing-Along – 11am
11. 7th Grade Program (Out) – 5pm
12. Rosh Hodesh Group – 5pm

WJC Spring Gala to Honor Wendy & Yale Zoland and Rabbi Monosov

On Sunday evening, April 3, WJC will celebrate its 65th annual dinner dance. This year’s Spring Gala – “A Starry Night” invites our community to have a great time as we honor Rabbi Loren Monosov and Wendy & Yale Zoland for all that they've done for the center. This month’s Review highlights the Zolands; next month’s will feature Rabbi Monosov. We hope you will join us in celebration on April 3rd.

The Zoland family’s active involvement in WJC began over twenty years ago. Wendy and Yale Zoland, new members of WJC, were sitting in their first High Holiday Services when Gerhard Spies, z”l, randomly plucked Yale from the last row of Section 4 to help put platters of cake out toward the end of the Rosh Hashanah service. Their oldest child Joshua had just begun “Mommy and Me” at WJC’s nursery school. To this day, many of Wendy and Yale’s closest friends in the community (including two of this year’s Dinner Dance chairs) were the parents of Josh’s classmates during his nursery school years.

Shortly after Josh began nursery school, Arielle was born. She had her baby naming in the shul and later followed her older brother through Nursery School and into

How Do You Solve A Problem Like Queen Esther?

By coming to Purimshpiel 2016 on Sunday evening, March 13 at 7pm.

By RANDY HELLER

The “Shpiel” has become the must-see WJC event of the year. Think SNL, but Jewish.

There’s music and comedy and mocking of clergy. Especially mocking of clergy.

This year our featured production is “The Sound of Musaf,” in which King Achashveros and his 7 children, aided by their love for Queen Esther, escape from the evil Haman by tap dancing their way through the Alps. O.K., so we took some liberties.

Speaking of liberty, the best part – it’s free! With great desserts! And lots of exclamation points!

So forget what your mother told you (that “you get what you pay for”), come exercise your inalienable right to laugh at your fellow congregants and clergy at Purimshpiel ’16…going on ’17 on March 13.
From the Clergy

Rabbi Jeffrey Segelman

Our Smallest Community

What is community? I am sure that there are definitive sociological definitions. Yet common observation would lead us to understand community as a group of people who join together based on a shared common interest or culture. Community may be a group of people dedicated to a common vision - seeking to achieve a common goal. Community may also be a group of people banding together to defend against a common threat. Indeed, community may be, and often is, all of these things.

The rabbis of Jewish tradition, recognizing that Judaism would have to survive in the diaspora, placed a high value on community. When they transformed Jewish worship from a centralized sacrificial cult to an experience of prayer, they established the principle that the fullest and most meaningful spiritual encounter with God may take place only in the context of community. The question became, what is the minimum number of people necessary to constitute community?

There was nothing arbitrary or subjective about their answer. They searched the Torah to find words like “community,” “congregation,” and “assembly,” to see what number might be associated with them. They were not concerned with the quality of that group - simply how many people would define a community. They found their answer in the Book of Numbers in the story of the spies sent to scout out the Land of Israel. Of the twelve spies (one from each tribe), two came back with optimistic reports. Unfortunately, ten returned to tell the people that the challenge of entering the land was too dangerous. These ten are termed “a community” in the Torah. The rabbis found their answer. The minimum definition of community is ten.

Personally, while I understand the technicalities of their find, I would have been happier if they learned it from another source. In the Book of Genesis, when Abraham fought with God to save the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, they came to the conclusion that if ten righteous people could be found, the cities would altogether be saved. God was willing to forgive the evil of everyone for the sake of ten good people.

In either case, we see the power of even the smallest community. Ten people turned the Jewish people back into the wilderness for an entire generation. Ten people would have saved the entire population from destruction. The power of the small community of ten was undeniable.

And so, the rabbis taught that the prayer community must be a minimum of ten. This is how we came to have what is known as the minyan. (The word minyan simply means “the counting.”) The prayer community is the smallest of all - yet it may be the most powerful and influential.

I am writing this because, from time to time, we find it hard - almost impossible - to create this smallest of communities even in our synagogue which numbers over 500 families. This is one of those times. Every morning we try to create the community of ten - the community without which we cannot read the Torah and without which those who are mourning cannot say kadish. Every morning and every evening we try to create the community of ten that assures the fact that the sounds of prayer are heard within these walls every single day. I am asking you to consider being part of that community of ten particularly during the weekday mornings.

This may initially sound strange. Thirty-five minutes of prayer in the morning is not on most people’s spiritual radar screen. I understand that. Yet it is so very important to understand that for us at WJC, morning minyan is not so much about prayer as it is about community. The minyan is about creating and maintaining the smallest of communities - within the larger community - that assures the spiritual vitality for everyone. It may or may not be about speaking to God. Yet it is surely about being one of the ten that makes certain that words of God can be sung and that praise of God from the mouths of mourners can be recited.

It cannot be done without community. It cannot be done without you.

Please let me know if we can count on you to be counted among the community of our daily minyan. It will be my honor to welcome you and make you feel at home.

Calling All Longtime Members

We are a congregation rich in history. Some of our members have been with us 60 years or more. Others have been here their whole lives, following their parents and grandparents (and more) before them. Since many of these relationships predate the computerization of our records, we are working hard to verify our data so that all longtime and multigenerational members are accounted for. If you have been with WJC 36 years or more, or have followed your parents (and grandparents) in WJC membership, please contact Kim in the office (email or phone) to be sure we have your correct information. Contact Sandi Rosenbaum with questions at sandi.rosenbaum@gmail.com.
Dear Congregants,

One of the initiatives recommended in our 2013 strategic plan should be realized this May - a full revision of our bylaws. The Governance task force has been working on this long-needed overhaul for more than a year, and will be presenting its proposed bylaws to the Trustees and Congregation at our Trustees’ Meetings on February 22 and March 28, with the intention of calling for a vote on the whole package at the Congregational Meeting scheduled for May 23. I invite all congregants to attend.

One question that came up early in the conversations about revisions was the length of the term a WJC President should serve. At the November meeting, the Trustees gave the Governance Taskforce their views and recommended keeping the term limit as it is now - annual re-election for a maximum of three years. While the revisions will include some rearranging of the titles and responsibilities of the various synagogue officers, they keep the system currently in place for choosing our leaders. After that meeting, Cheryl Natbony, a new Trustee, suggested that I explain to the Congregation the process of selection and succession for WJC’s lay leaders.

Our system has served us well over the years - ensuring a smooth transition from one well-informed President to the next, while avoiding potentially divisive politicking, or worry at the end of a President’s term about who’s coming up next. Every fall, the Chair of the Board, (an officer who is often a former synagogue President), proposes, and the Trustees elect, a Nominating Committee composed of several current trustees and congregants, but no sitting officers. Beth Jaret has taken on the role of Nominating Committee Chair.

The Nominating Committee speaks with the current officers and trustees about their experiences as leaders, asks whether they wish to continue in office or move to a different one, solicits suggestions of potential new officers and trustees, and in consultation with congregants and with the incoming president, identifies and then interviews potential candidates for positions for the following year. The Nominating Committee presents its proposed slate of officers and trustees to the Congregation in March of each year for a Congregational election in April. The new group of officers begins serving in June.

For the more than 20 years I’ve been an officer and trustee, that’s how we’ve chosen our leaders. Though the current by-laws do not specify a line of succession, in recent years the Nominating Committee has sought to ensure that incoming presidents have sufficient expertise and support by putting presidential aspirants through a succession of senior leadership positions on their way to the top. These have included being first, Financial Vice-President, responsible for proposing the annual budget, then Administrative Vice-President, and finally Executive Vice-President, before moving into the presidency. Since presidents usually serve three years, that means serving for nine years in vice-president positions before becoming president. That’s what I did, and that’s what Jeff Lavine will have done too, if, as anticipated, the membership elects him president in May.

If you ever thought that I’d been lurking around as a WJC officer for a long time before becoming president, you would be right! The process is slow but steady, and it requires true dedication to the needs of the synagogue for years before a person earns the honor and privilege of becoming the President of WJC. The new bylaws will propose eliminating the position of Administrative Vice-President, which we created before we had a full-time Executive Director, but will include a line of succession, so the lead time to becoming president will eventually go down from nine years to six - still plenty of time to ensure a qualified selection.

Our system has indeed created a successful team of officers - a group I’ve had the pleasure to work with for many years, who cooperate for the good of the shul and who focus on policies and problems, rather than on electioneering or maneuvering for positions, or fulfilling personal agendas. They devote their energy and talents to solving problems together and to keeping WJC moving forward as a community. I hope you will get involved with some of our committees, and eventually consider joining the group of Officers and Trustees yourself. It’s a great group to work with.

Wishing you a cozy February.

G.

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**Shabbat and Holiday Services**

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Feb. 5</td>
<td>Traditional Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
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<td>Rhythm and Ruach</td>
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<td>Saturday, Feb. 6</td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
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<td>Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Teen Shmooze</td>
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<td>Mincha Ma’ariv</td>
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<td>Friday, Feb. 12</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<td>Saturday, Feb. 13</td>
<td>Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Friday, Feb. 19</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<td>Saturday, Feb. 20</td>
<td>Pesukei D’Zimra</td>
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<td>Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Mincha Ma’ariv</td>
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<td>Friday, Feb. 26</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
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<td>Saturday, Feb. 27</td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
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<td>Shabbat Services</td>
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<td>Youth Shabbat Learning Program</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Contemporary Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mincha Bat Mitzvah of Calle Harwin</td>
<td>5:15pm</td>
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**Torah For Tots (ECC – K) * Jr. Congregation (Grade K -2) * Youth Service (Grade 3 -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

Fridays at 7:00am and Sundown

Sundays and Legal Holidays at 8:30am & 7:30pm
Calle Harwin
Bat Mitzvah
February 27, 2016

Hi! My name is Calle Harwin. I am so excited for my Bat Mitzvah and can’t wait to celebrate with all of my family and friends. I have been going to WJC since I was in pre-school. I have studied and worked really hard on my Torah portion and d’var Torah and can’t wait to be up on the bimah.

I am in the 7th grade at Hommocks Middle School. My favorite subjects are Science and Chinese. Outside of school, I love to dance and hang out with friends. I also play travel and rec basketball. During the summer I go to Camp Che-Na-Wah, which is located in the Adirondack Mountains. I love my summers with my camp friends and miss them during the school year.

I would like to thank Cantor Alcott for helping me learn my Torah portion; Rabbi Monosov for helping write my d’var Torah and Rabbi Segelman for his support and encouragement. Thank you also to all of my religious school teachers and Aleza Kulp.

Most of all, I would like to thank my parents for their support throughout the process of me becoming a Bat Mitzvah. And last but not least, I would like to thank Jeremy and Jesse for being the best brothers ever!

Building community for Religious School families has always been a priority. Shabbat dinners at WJC on Friday evenings, community Havdalah before school on Sunday mornings with the clergy and family programs are just a few of the ways that we are creating a kehillah (community). This year with the support of Cantor Goldberg and the Music Enrichment Committee, families in our Religious School have joined another kehillah: the Rhythm and Ruach and Contemporary Services. Throughout the school year, we encourage parents and children to participate in Rhythm & Ruach on Friday evenings and the Contemporary Service on Shabbat mornings along with other members of the WJC community. As a Religious School parent recently said: “Attending the Contemporary Service on Shabbat morning has opened up a new Shabbat community for my family. We felt so comfortable and at home in the service.” This is exactly the goal we have for our families. We hope that this new tradition continues to develop. This month there are two opportunities for families to grow together: Friday, February 5th for a family Shabbat dinner at 6:30 pm followed by the Rhythm and Ruach and on Saturday, February 27th for the Contemporary Service at 10:15 am.

SCHechTER WestcheSTeR
FIFTY YeArS YOUNG

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For half a century, Solomon Schechter School of Westchester has combined a values-based Jewish day school education with the most rigorous and creative academics. Our students are prepared for twenty-first century success – in the classroom, in the lab, on the playing field, and in the larger world.

www.schechterwestchester.org
AN INDEPENDENT K-12 COED JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
Monsou on April 3rd, 2016.

Wendy and Yale will miss her efforts and insights, along with her wit, once she has moved onto her next endeavor. She was involved in the Parents Association for many years and is an active member of Sisterhood. Additionally, she has helped out with the Dinner Dance and social action at WJC. Wendy has also been an active community leader outside of the synagogue. She has served on the Central School PTA board in various positions, volunteered at Hommocks Middle School and Mamaroneck High School and helped the Mamaroneck Schools Foundation with several of their fundraising events. She currently is the Vice President of the Sheldrake Environmental Center.

As a young member, Yale was singled out to participate in a new WJC Brotherhood program (part of a ploy by Rabbi Segelman to get more younger members involved) called “Hearing Men’s Voices.” The following year, he ran the program. After introducing a Brotherhood Shabbat Service and other programs, Yale along with his Co-President, took the helm of Brotherhood for three years, during which time it was typical to have three to four programs per month.

After Brotherhood, Yale became a Trustee and then an officer. As a financial officer, his duties include ensuring that congregants can comfortably afford their dues. He also serves as the Brotherhood Liaison, negotiates contracts, and was co-chair of the search committee that hired our new Director of Teen Engagement. Beyond Yale’s officer responsibilities, he served on the Marketing Committee, the 2013 Strategic Planning Committee and the latest Capital Campaign. Outside of WJC, Yale is involved in pro-Israel advocacy and is on the executive board of the 47th Street Business Improvement District.

Wendy and Yale met at Brandeis University, where they received degrees in economics in 1987. They caught up with each other when Wendy was on a break from Suffolk Law School, where she obtained her J.D., and while Yale was working in the family diamond and jewelry business. They married in 1992. Yale currently leads his third-generation family business as it approaches its ninth decade.

Wendy was raised in Rockland County but has roots in Westchester, as both her parents grew up in New Rochelle. Her grandmother still lives in the house that her father was raised in. Growing up, Wendy attended Beth El Synagogue in Spring Valley. Yale grew up in central New Jersey and attended Neve Shalom, a Conservative congregation similar in size to the Westchester Jewish Center. As a high school senior, he was president of his USY chapter.

Wendy and Yale proudly celebrated three b’nei mitzvot for their children at WJC, most recently for Ethan, in November 2015. Ethan is an eighth grader at Hommocks Middle School and attends WJC’s new “Hebrew High.” Arielle is enjoying her sophomore year at Skidmore College and Josh will be graduating from Tufts University this spring.

Wendy and Yale feel blessed to be part of this wonderful community and view their contributions as payback for all that the community has given them. They are honored to share this special evening with Rabbi Monosov, who has worked so hard and done so much for our congregation. Wendy and Yale will miss her efforts and insights, along with her wit, once she has moved on to her next endeavor.

Please join us in celebrating the Zolands and Rabbi Monosov on April 3rd, 2016.
Food Collection at WJC: Bring on the Cereal!

Sondra Levy, Social Action Committee

The Social Action Committee at WJC would like to increase the amount of food we give to the Larchmont/Mamaroneck food pantry. It may surprise some people to learn that the local pantry serves over 450 people twice a month, giving out shopping bags filled with proteins, vegetables, fruits (canned and fresh) pasta and rice, cereal and miscellaneous items.

Let’s make a commitment to help by focusing on one food item: Cereal. What might be a small contribution on our side will result in a greater impact for the pantry. Cereal is a very expensive item for the pantry to purchase but is highly appreciated by the families served. How can you help?

Bring cereal to WJC the last week of every month:

• When you drop off your child at nursery or religious school.
• When you attend a meeting
• When you attend services on Shabbat

This commitment by WJC members will help our neighbors in need profoundly. Any questions, please contact Sondra Levy at sklevy@wjc.org.

Hey Teens!

Shoshi Rosenbaum, Teen Engagement Director

Calling all 7th to 12th graders (and their parents): Add “Shoshi Wjc” on Facebook and “wjc_teens” on Instagram, and check your inboxes to stay updated!

Here are some highlights of the Teen Community from January:

• Fifteen teens traveled to Memphis, TN to build community and to learn about the connection between Judaism and Civil Rights. We had an amazing time, and we can’t wait to share our experiences with the greater community!

• Registration is open for the second semester of Hebrew High! If your teen is interested in joining us once, twice, or three times a month on Tuesday evenings, please contact Shoshi. All teens in 8th to 12th grade are still welcome to come try out Hebrew High free of cost.

• Our 7th grade Rosh Hodesh group is up and running! If you have a 7th grade daughter who would like to participate, please contact Shoshi.

And here’s what’s going on in February—I hope you’ll join us!

2/8: Leading on Campus: A Discussion about Israel for 11th and 12th graders
2/2: Hebrew High—6PM-8PM
8th Grade: Jewish Values Debate, Current Events with Rabbi Segelman
9th Grade: Current Events with Rabbi Segelman, Jewish Values Debate
10th Grade: Rosh Hodesh
2/6: Teen Schmooze—10:30AM-12PM
2/7: Social Programs: Ice Skating
2/9: Hebrew High—6PM-8PM
8th and 9th Grade Boys: Shevet Achim with Cantor Goldberg
8th and 9th Grade Girls: Rosh Hodesh with Rabbi Monosov
10th-12th Grade: Service Learning
• There also will be a class with Rabbi Segelman for 11th and 12th graders after minyan that will run until 8:30PM
2/16: NO HEBREW HIGH
2/23: Hebrew High—6PM-8PM
8th Grade: Service Learning, Elective
9th Grade: Elective, Service Learning
10th Grade: Current Events with Rabbi Segelman
11th Grade: Rosh Hodesh with Rabbi Monosov
• There will also be a Leadership Board meeting after minyan
2/28: Rosh Hodesh for 7th Grade Girls—5-7PM

Hav “Dairy” in Your Pajamas – A Twist on Havdalah

Sabrina Landau, Early Childhood Center Director

On Saturday night, January 9th, many ECC families arrived at the WJC all dressed up in pajamas for a special program called Hav “Dairy.” Cantor Ethan led us all in the singing of “Shabbos is Going Away” and Rabbi Segelman explained the significance of the Havdalah ceremony.

As we recited the blessings over the wine, spices and candles to mark the end of the Sabbath, flames flickered, filling the room with a glowing light.

The word Havdalah means to differentiate or distinguish. The Havdalah ceremony is used to differentiate between the holiness of the Sabbath and the mundane of the regular week. We recite three blessings to help us prepare for the week ahead.

The blessings had been recited and the service came to an end, a “dairy” dinner of pasta and salad was served. For dessert, there were specially designed moon shaped cookies. The evening ended with a goodnight story called: Pajama Time by Sandra Boynton.

What a great way for us all to start off our very busy weeks!

Last Gift Collected at CRC Gift Drive

Last Gift Collected at CRC Gift Drive

*When you drop off your child at nursery or religious school.
*When you attend a meeting
*When you attend services on Shabbat
Celebrating community is something that Sisterhood did exceptionally well on Shabbat morning, January 9th, thanks to the hard work of Randi Klaber and Emily Hoffner and to all those Sisterhood members who participated in the beautiful, heartfelt service. For the more than 50 Sisterhood members and others in our community, it was a very special service. We were also treated to the beautiful voices of our Sisterhood Choir and a special kiddush which included Sisterhood baked kugels and French Toast soufflés.

We hope you felt the warmth and tasted the treats. We are now 123 members strong and still growing.

Please mark your calendars and join us...

Tuesday, March 8th Jewish Museum Tour of “Unorthodox” exhibit. Meet at the museum at 11:15 am. For more info, contact Susan Levy at SL16@aol.com.

Thursday, April 14th 7pm – 8.30pm Joint Larchmont Temple/WJC Sisterhood event at the MAG (Mamaroneck Artists Guild) in Larchmont. Gallery viewing with wine and desserts. Small entrance fee at the door.

Tuesday, April 19th Mah Jongg RSVP to Debbie Katz dkatz1000@aol.com, and advise if you are a beginner or experienced player. We need to plan on tables and see if we need an instructor for new players.

Tuesday, May 3rd Joint UJA/WJC and Larchmont Temple Sisterhoods event at MADE in Mamaroneck at 7.30pm Come and create a beautiful art project with us!

Closing event to be planned. Contact Martine Wax at martine@waxonline.net

Be prepared for our next book club meeting. The book will be The Bridal Chair. A Novel by Gloria Goldreich. Date and time TBD.

Want to honor someone? Sisterhood Tree of Life is a wonderful way to do so. Please check it out on the wall by the Sisterhood Gift Shop. Contact Susan Levy for more information at SL16@aol.com.

Speaking of the Sisterhood Gift Shop. Remember Carol Fasman has selected many beautiful items for your gift giving pleasure. Please stop by or make an appointment with Carol Fasman at cfasman@gmail.com

WJC Sisterhood is for all of us... women of any age, who work part time, full time or not at all. We have a responsibility to our community and want to fulfill this by continuing to expand our membership. Sisterhood helps to create friendships while helping our synagogue, & we have fun doing it!

To join as a WJC member or Nursery School parent, please send your $36 check to WJC Sisterhood at the synagogue office or, non-members may join WJC Sisterhood for only $48 per year. Your mothers, sisters and friends can join with you too! Your dues help us to support special programs and initiatives at the synagogue. If you have any questions, please contact, Raelin Kantor at rfkantor@gmail.com or Ileen Greenberg at ileen@optonline.net.
Portable Ark Dedicated in Memory of Allen A. Stein

On December 13, 2015, WJC clergy led a dedication of our new portable ark, lovingly donated in Memory of Allen A. Stein (z”l) for his 25th Yahrzeit by his family and friends.

At the ceremony, Allen’s son Eric spoke about his father and his family’s memories as members of WJC. Eric also participated in a Torah reading with Rabbis Segelman and Monosov and Cantor Goldberg. Gail Marcus, WJC president, also spoke and thanked the Stein family for making the new ark possible.

Remember:
Commemorate your joyous occasions by inscribing a leaf on the WJC Sisterhood Tree of Life.
Call Susan Levy at 834-2456
We Walk Together: Multi-faith Service for the Victim of Extremists

WJC to host Multi-faith Service, Sunday Feb 21 at 3pm

SANDI ROSENBAUM, SOCIAL ACTION

Interfaith efforts are increasing across the Westchester Jewish community, and WJC’s visibility in this area will take a giant step forward this month. **We Walk Together - Multi-faith Service for the Victims of Extremists**, will take place in the WJC Sanctuary on Sunday, February 21 from 3-5pm. Rabbi Segelman will lead Jewish prayer, and Christian and Muslim clergy will each lead prayers from their traditions. The service is organized by the Interreligious/Intergroup Committee (IIRC) of the AJC/Westchester-Fairfield, which is led by WJC members Cliff Wolf and Jonathan Franklin. Sponsors (list in formation at press time) include Jewish, Muslim, Catholic, Protestant and Mormon leadership. Mark your calendar, but check the weekly emails for any updates.

Multi-faith worship is new to WJC and to many of us. The prospect of attending this service may push some of us out of our comfort zone. However, the AJC IIRC has vast experience in identifying common ground among diverse groups and bringing them together for the very different, but complementary purposes of dialogue and prayer. Cliff Wolf, who leads these efforts, frequently consults with Rabbi Segelman regarding questions of Jewish law and philosophy as they arise. Previous multi-faith services have also brought together Jews, Christians and Muslims, in response to the murders of teens that sparked the 2014 Gaza war; in response to the Charlie Hebdo and Kosher supermarket attacks; in response to the murders of teens that sparked the 21st annual massacre, convened by the Port Chester NAACP. The chapter president, Joan Grangenois-Thomas, challenged those present to continue dialogue along interfaith and interracial lines. Diverse houses of worship, among them WJC, hosted interreligious discussions of the book: **The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness**. Discussions are underway to identify another book for intergroup discussion. Meanwhile, several WJC members attended last month’s interfaith Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration held by the Rye-Port Chester community.

Another avenue through which WJC will be pursuing interfaith dialogue and activity is the Westchester Jewish Conference’s newly convened synagogue roundtable for interfaith activities. The roundtable provides a forum for interested members of different faiths to discuss and collaborate on interfaith efforts with the guidance of the AJC IIRC.

It is our hope, working with the Roundtable and its guidance from Cliff and the AJC, to do more. I am the officer liaison to this effort, with an initial committee of Ruth Obernbreit Glass, Sharon Silver and Holly Fink. We have just begun and are open to ideas for future efforts. Don’t hesitate to contact me, Ruth, Sharon or Holly with your suggestions.

Also, note that on Thursday, Feb 11 at 7:30pm at Iona College, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, who is a Jewish expert on the Christian Bible (and a past WJC Scholar in Residence), will speak at an event celebrating the 50th anniversary of Vatican II and its Nostra Aetate, discussing past, present and future of Jewish-Christian relations.

Ruth Obernbreit Glass and Sharon Silver facilitated first Interfaith-Interracial Book Discussion

The Hendel Library at WJC hosted the discussion of: **The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness**

At left, Joan Grangenois Thomas, the Director of the Port Chester NAACP

Guest poet Daphne Carter McKnight read several pieces
Brotherhood News
WWW: World Wide Wrap on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7th & Sports Talk by WJC Trustee, Jacques Steinberg on his book: You are an Ironman
Stu Seltzer & Robin Nazarzadeh, co-chairs

WJC Brotherhood is pleased to host the annual World Wide Wrap on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7th, followed by breakfast and talk with our own Jacques Steinberg, who will discuss his book: You are an Ironman.

Shacharit will begin at 8:30 followed immediately by the book talk at around 9:00 am. Let’s break our record of 86 tefillin wrappers this year! Copies of the book will be available for purchase, and all are welcome!

About Jacques Steinberg:
WJC congregant (and trustee) Jacques Steinberg was a journalist at The New York Times for 25 years. For his second book: You are an Ironman, published by Viking Penguin in 2012, he spent a year following six weekend warriors from around the country as they prepared for, and then attempted to complete, their first try at an Ironman Triathlon. An Ironman is a grueling, 17-hour test of will that begins with a 2.4 mile open water swim (the equivalent of about 175 lengths across a 25-yard community pool), continues with a 112 mile-bike ride (imagine pedaling from Philadelphia to Manhattan) and then ends with a 26.2 mile run (imagine finishing that bike ride and immediately embarking on the New York City Marathon.) As Ironman-distance races have spread from the original site in Hawaii to locations around the country and the world, tens of thousands have taken on this challenge each year – including several WJC members. Join Jacques as he tells some of the inspiring stories of persistence and endurance from his book. Following the program, Jacques will sign copies of his book, which will be available for purchase.

In November, the Adult Education Committee, Brotherhood & Hendel Library presented a cultural and literary discussion led by our own Jacques Steinberg and his former colleague at the New York Times and Larchmont resident, Joe Berger. Before a standing room only crowd, Jacques interviewed Joe about his book: The Pious Ones: The World of Hasidim and their Battles with America.

Pictured below from left to right: Jacques Steinberg, Joe Berger and Heather Taffett Gold, Adult Ed Chair

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Westchester Jewish Center’s Koslowe Judaica Gallery Presents “Diaspora and Identity:” Works Portraying Jewish Life in more than 40 Countries by World-renowned French Photographer Frederic Brenner

Opening Reception February 4, 2016 at 7:45pm

On generous loan from the Howard Greenberg Gallery in New York, the soaring and stunning photographs are a collective portrait of Jewish life, woven over 25 years and more than 40 countries. These works, comprised of merchants in India, Tunisian brides and grooms, Portuguese Marranos secretly observing Passover, Chinese Jews, a tobacco worker in Azerbaijan, reveal a people alternately transformed by and transforming the societies where they live.

For more information, contact Amy Levine-Kennedy, Curator at amyruth67@aol.com

Hendel Library News

ARLENE RATZARI, LIBRARIAN

Now that winter has finally gotten the memo, it is time to curl up on the sofa with a blanket and a new book! Our library has just received a wonderful collection of books for our adult and youth/children collections. Be part of our library community!

Adult Collection
1. Abrams, Judith. The Other Talmud, the Yershalmi: Unlocking the Secrets of the Talmud of Israel for Judaism Today
2. Rosner, Elizabeth. Electric City; A Novel
3. Goldreich, Gloria. The Bridal Chair
4. Attenberg, Jami Saint Mazie; A Novel
5. Cohen, Joshua. Book of Numbers; A Novel
6. Reshef, Yaron. Out of the Shoebox. (Holocaust Collection)
8. Shrayrer, Maxim. Dinner with Stalin and Other Stories

Youth (Y) /Children Collection (C)
1. Kimmelman, Leslie. Sam and Charlie (and Sam too) at Camp (C)
2. Greene, Jacqueline. Lights, Camera, Rebecca! (Y)
3. Rouss, Sylvia. King David and Akavish the Spider (C)
4. Baker, Sharon. All Kinds of Strong (C)
5. Taylor, Theodore. The Cay (Y)
7. Levy, Dana. The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher (Y)
8. Carlson, Claudia. Art the Ambulance Goes to School (C)

Library hours are Wednesday and Thursday from 2pm - 6 pm but if you need something you can always email us at librarian@wjcenter.org and we will make every effort to assist you.

WJC World Jewry Committee HOLLY ROSEN FINK, WORLD JEWRY COMMITTEE

Learn about Jews around the world

GREEK JEWRY Thursday, February 11th at 8 pm

Rattled by the Euro debt crisis gripping the country, Greece’s small yet vibrant Jewish community is facing an unprecedented emergency. The majority of Jewish communal institutions—synagogues, a Jewish school, a cultural center, and a soup kitchen—are on the brink of closure and many members of the community are unemployed and struggling to support themselves and their families. To better understand what Greek Jewry is like today, we will welcome speaker Meredith Bilski, a professional in New York, who recently traveled to Greece and Bulgaria and helped launch a fundraising campaign benefitting the Greek Jewish community.

CUBAN JEWRY Thursday, March 3rd at 8 pm

Cuba has been a world hidden from most Americans for over 50 years. Surprisingly, it is home to a vibrant and active community, stretching from the capital city of Havana, with the greatest concentration of Cuban Jews, to smaller groups across the island, from Cien Fuegos to Guantanamo. And that’s because the resurgence of Jewish life in this island nation is a remarkable story to tell. Speaker Shaun Goldstone, a global officer with the Joint Distribution Committee, will present the history of the Cuban Jewish community.

Hendel Library News

ARLENE RATZARI, LIBRARIAN

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Cantor’s Fund
In honor of...
the engagement of Shoshi Rosenbaum & Ethan Goldberg
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In appreciation of Cantor Goldberg’s wonderful teaching
and support in preparing Elissa for her Bat Mitzvah
From Marcie & Mark Berger

Ethiopian Immigrant Fund
In memory of...
Matilda Hirschfeld
From Brenda Bloom
Abraham Hirschfeld
From Brenda Bloom
Michael Nasoff’s father
From Marty & Glenna Bloom
Joey Silverstein
From Marty & Glenna Bloom

Holocaust Learning Center Fund
In memory of...
Eleanor Fleisch
From Gail & Marty Marcus

Kiddush Fund
In memory of...
Minnie Ginsberg
From Marilyn Weisbrot
Murray Ginsberg
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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: 698-6614
Sol Israel: 576-7670
Miles Federman: 698-0861
Debbie Zelenetz: 837-3988

Scholar-In-Residence Fund
In memory of...
Eleanor Fleisch
From Sarene Shanus & Harold Treiber

Social Action Fund
In memory of...
Eleanor Fleisch
From Myra Levine-Harris & Alan Lubitz
Dr. Henry Deutsch
From Michelle Sanger

Nursery School Fund
In memory of...
Maurice Brand
From Giselle Weissman
Howard Ehrlich

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
In honor of...
the marriage of Michael Fleisch &
Dayna Weiner
From Meira & Tom Fleisch
Amy & David Kriss on the
engagement of Mariel to Jamie Sholem
From Alan & Laurel Benet
Sheri Hannah Weingarten on her
acceptance to Barnard College
From your loving grandparents,
Sandi & Arthur Drescher

In memory of...
Jonathan Harris
From Myra Harris
Eleanor Fleisch
From Renee & Peter Cohen
Mindy & Andrew Feldman
Lois Gallant
From Debra & Joel Binstok
Albert Kaufman
From Hendrea & Barry Schwartz
Morris Frankel
From Sharon & Jeffrey Silver

With appreciation for
Rabbi Segelman for his support
during a difficult time
From The Zelson Family

With thanks for helping Ari with the
Ner Tamid Scout Award
From Rachel Kaminer & Brian Gebhardt

In appreciation of Rabbi Segelman’s
wonderful teaching and support in
preparing Elissa for her Bat Mitzvah
From Marcie & Mark Berger

In appreciation of Rabbi Segelman
From Myron Meadow
Sheldon Linden
Betsy & Clifford Wolf
Ronald & Jocelyn Burton

Memorial Fund
In memory of...
Abraham Kornsweet
From Ellen Adler
Sonya Kornsweet
From Ellen Adler
Gloria Ickov
From Helen Colman
Lucille Albrecht
From Martin Freiman
Helen Jurish
From Mark Jurish
Mary Perlstein
From Morton Perlstein
Alexander Garfinkel
From Steven Garfinkel
Candise Du Boff-Jones
From Michael Du Boff
Emanuel DelVecchio
From Susan McKay
Dora Weinikranz
From Anita Kaplan
Larry Lewis
From Linda & Jeffrey Solomon
Sadie & Isadore Kessler
From Irene Kuritzky
Estelle Gedan
From Barry & Susan Gedan
David Halperin
From Steven & Iren Halperin
Jack Aschendorf
From Ellen Aschendorf-Shasha
Gloria Frankel
From Sharon & Jeffrey Silver

Rabbi Monosov’s Fund
In appreciation
From Mike Meadow
Yahrzeits
According to our Memorial Tablets, the following Yahrzeits will be observed these months:

DECEASED SHEVAT FEB.
Arthur Klebanoff 22 1
Louis Scharak 22 1
David Potok 23 2
Sarah Scharak 23 2
Anna Fabian 24 3
Nettie Schwartz 24 3
Mollie Starobin 24 3
Milton Kandel 25 4
Morris Markowitz 25 4
David Marshak 25 4
Max Pomerantz 25 4
Fannie Selig 25 4
Sarah Stern 25 4
Abe Wallach 25 4
Sarah Friedman 26 5
Sarah Goodman 26 5
Jean Price Kadis 26 5
Arnold B. Levy 26 5
Fritzie Okin 26 5
Rose Lazarovsky 27 6
Marta Perechocky 27 6
Adeline Sirlin 27 6
Anna Sirlin 28 7
Samuel Cheroff 29 8
Rose Abrams 30 9
J. Joseph Jacobson 30 9
Leon Perechocky 30 9

ADAR
Barbara Freides 1 10
Jack Freides 1 10
Barnet Prakin 1 10
Samuel Rotner 1 10
Joseph M. Ellenzweig 2 11
Bertha Levine 4 13
Celia Glassman 5 14
Anna Kaufman 6 15
Charlotte Picker Sussman 7 16
Max Okin 8 17
Irving Philips 8 17
Anna Wolgin 8 17
Irving Brodwin 9 18
Sara Gelb 9 18
Maurice P. Marks 9 18
Miriam Schwartz 9 18
Barney Balaban 10 19
R. Phyllis Cohn 10 19
Rosalind Kaufman 10 19
Benjamin Tilkus 10 19
Burton B. Zell 10 19
Sarah B. Katz 11 20
Simon J. Rosenblum 11 20
Dora Butner 12 21
Anna Cannold 12 21
Avi Juan Farkas 12 21
Caterine Sabatelli Helle 12 21
Mary Sasaki 12 21
Elaine Scheiner 12 21
Sidney Sirkin 12 21
David Bergner 14 23
Saul Immerman 14 23
Dr. Robert H. Ralph 14 23
Benjamin Teper 15 24
Esther Raboy 16 25
Dana Cohen 17 26
Dr. Robert Funaro 17 26
Bess Garfunkel 17 26
Jacob Poppel 18 27
Samuel C. Stempel 18 27
Meyer Markowitz 19 28
Marionne Norwitz 19 28
Samuel Schimel 19 28
Sarah Schoenfeld 19 28
Rubin R. Du Boff 20 29
Isaac Fink 20 29
Gordon V. Lyons 20 29
Edith Nisselson 20 29
Shirley L. Starobin 20 29

May their memory be a blessing.
Experience confirms that a great number of students in our religious school do not know their Hebrew names. When they are asked to find out their names from their parents, we learn that the mother and father don’t know their children’s Hebrew names, either. Sometimes the child makes a valiant attempt to find out his or her name, but the family tradition is garbled and the child reports in class, “My Hebrew name is Kishke” or “My Jewish name is Aftsuloches.”

Every Rabbi knows that in order to prepare a Ketubah - a Jewish wedding contract - he must usually assign the couple four months before the wedding the task of finding out their Hebrew names. At a funeral - where planning ahead is necessarily absent - survivors scurry about from one relative to another, trying to find someone who knows the Hebrew name of their departed loved one.

This state of affairs is tragic for two reasons. First, loss of a Hebrew name brings with it loss of Jewish identification. Our very language implies that my name is my identity, as in “I am Chaim Listfield.” The midrash on Exodus says that the Jews were redeemed from Egypt because they refused to change Hebrew to Egyptian names. Very simply, they remained Jews because they remained faithful to their Jewish identity.

But even more poignantly, something else is lost when a child doesn’t know his or her Hebrew name. Without their names, our children also lose part of their family history.

The vast majority of American Jews are of Ashkenazic origin, and follow the custom of naming a baby after a deceased relative. (Sephardic Jews frequently name their children in honor of a living relative.)

Chances are that your child or grandchild is named for your father or mother or grandparent. The child, of course, never met that deceased relative whom you knew so well and loved so much. Are you therefore not the ideal person to tell your child about the life, the achievements and the dreams of that person whose name the child bears? Will that knowledge be a source of pride and strength to your child?

In our anonymous society, our children need to know their own names and their own history. Our children have to know where they have been in order to know where they are going. Your child’s Hebrew name is a public symbol of his tradition and a personal link with his family past. It is the task of parents and grandparents to tell their child about his or her Hebrew name and about the deceased loved one who bore that name. In this manner, Jewish parents and grandparents have lived on for generations through their children, and in this way they continue to live.
The Review of
The Westchester Jewish Center
Mamaroneck, N.Y. 10543

Synagogue Family
Mazel Tov & Best Wishes to Rose & David Smith on the birth of a daughter, Serabel Rachel... Clifford Wolf for being honored by the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Committee on Human Rights, 29th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration for his “outstanding volunteer work exemplifying the dream.”... Rabbi Jef & Marla Segelman on the engagement of their son, Uri to Yael Cohen... Paula & David Krenkel on the engagement of their daughter, Caralyn to John Nannierelo.

Condolences
Our deepest sympathy is extended to Tom Fleisch & Family on the loss of his mother, Eleanor Fleisch.

In Memoriam
Claire Meadow z”l
The Westchester Jewish Center mourns the passing of our dedicated member and friend, Claire Meadow. Claire was deeply devoted to the spiritual and educational life of our synagogue. She was also a passionate and outspoken lover of Israel. Our sincere condolences are extended to her husband, Mike, her daughter and a member of WJC Andrea, and her daughter Roxanne and her son Aaron and her grandchildren. May her memory be a blessing.

ISRAELI DANCE CLASSES AT WJC
GREAT FOR BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT!
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Come Join Us at the Contemporary Shabbat Service with Cantor Ethan Goldberg... and a youth Shabbat learning program!

WHERE?
Saturday, March 26th, 2016
10:30 a.m.
In the Activity Center

WHAT?
The Contemporary Shabbat service is an abbreviated, casual, instrumental morning service filled with music, singing and special spiritual teachings.

Looking forward to seeing all of you there!

ISRAELI DANCE CLASSES AT WJC
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Introducing

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<th>February</th>
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<td>1, 18, 29</td>
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<td>4, 11, 18, 25</td>
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*Meets Mondays except Thursday January 21, June 2 & 16

Beginners: 7:30pm - 8:45pm
Intermediate/Advanced: 8:45pm - 10pm in the Activity Center or Gym

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

For more information, please contact: Linda Alpert Karell, Chair of Israel Committee
linda@alpertmediation.com
or (914) 584-6738
Sponsored by the WJC Israel Committee

WELCOME TO WJC’S ISRAELI MOVIE NIGHT
“Sallah”

This 1964 laugh-out-loud comedy and social satire, written and directed by Ephraim Kishon and starring Chaim Topol, Arik Einstein, and Gila Almagor, describes how a family of Mizrachi Jewish immigrants, placed in an inhospitable transit camp in Israel in 1949, deal with the inevitable bureaucracy, culture shock and language barrier to work their way up to a better life. The film won a Golden Globe Award as best foreign film and was nominated for a U.S. Academy Award as best foreign film. (110 min. long, in English and Hebrew with English subtitles, unrated)

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 7:45pm
In the Activity Center
Free to All – Invite Your Friends!
We will be serving coffee, tea, refreshments and popcorn!
($5 donation to cover cost of refreshments is welcome and appreciated)
Please RSVP to Linda Alpert Karell at:
lINDA@ALPERTMEDICATION.COM
Sponsored by the WJC Israel Committee