Join Us for ‘A Starry Night’ on April 3rd to Honor Rabbi Loren Monosov and Wendy & Yale Zoland

WJC will sparkle on Sunday evening, April 3rd as we pay tribute to Rabbi Loren Monosov and Wendy & Yale Zoland at our annual fundraising gala. Last month we highlighted the role that Wendy & Yale have played at WJC and this month we feature Rabbi Loren Monosov. We hope you will return your RSVP card, donate a raffle item and purchase a journal ad to show your love and appreciation for Rabbi Monosov and the Zolands.

Rabbi Monosov’s time at WJC began with an interview with Aleza Kulp to teach seventh grade. Little did anyone know that this interview would be the start of an eight year relationship. During Rabbi Monosov’s second year of Rabbinical School, she taught WJC seventh graders every Thursday evening and Sunday morning. From that experience, she learned what an extraordinary community WJC is. Rabbi Monosov returned a year later as the first Rabbinic Intern during which time she had the opportunity to learn from Rabbi Segelman and Steigmann and Cantor Sokoloff. A year later, she returned to WJC to serve in an assistant rabbi capacity while Rabbi Segelman was on sabbatical. Rabbi Monosov has remained at the Center in a rabbinic capacity since then, and has been a part of almost every facet of the synagogue.

During her tenure at WJC, she has had numerous titles and roles and been a part of so many people’s lives. From ECC families and teachers to Religious School davening to High Holiday Services, from committee meetings and to working with b’nei mitzvah students on their d’vrei Torah, from Rosh Hodesh: It’s a Girl Thing to a Women’s Minyan, Rabbi Monosov has connected with every demographic at WJC. She has brought innovation to WJC including the High Holiday Family Experience, Family Holiday Services, and synagogue-wide holiday celebrations. Rabbi Monosov is proud of the monthly Contemporary Service that she crafted with Lee Epstein that continues to be an avenue of spirituality for many WJC congregants. It has been continued on page 5

How Do You Solve A Problem Like Queen Esther?
By Coming to Purimshpiel 2016 on March 13 at 7pm.
(In case you missed last month’s Review, see page 5 for details.)

PURIMSPIELE 2016
SAVE THE DATE...
Sunday, March 13, 2016 at 7:00pm
Westchester Jewish Center

The deadline for content submission for March is March 6th @ communicationdir@wjcenter.org
One Entryway . . . Many Ways to Engage

As I sit down to write this month’s article, the news out of Israel is still fresh. As outlined by the Masorti Movement, after many years of intensive negotiations, an agreement was reached for there to be “One Kotel”, with one entryway for all Jews to access the part of the Kotel that is most comfortable for each person. The Northern Plaza will respect the Orthodox customs and the Southern Plaza, that we know as Robinson's Arch, will respect the equality as suited to the customs of Conservative and Reform Judaism. Both plazas will provide Torah scrolls, siddurim, tables for reading the Torah and everything necessary for every person—man or woman—to pray as they find meaningfully and appropriately, at the expense of the Israeli government. This news is huge.

Once this agreement is fulfilled, all Jews will walk through the same entryway to enter the Kotel and daven. There will be no need to find the obscure entrance to the Southern Plaza, Robinson’s Arch, or the entrance to the Northern Plaza because it will all be one. Imagine the scene: Jews of all different backgrounds and denominations will walk in together to the Kotel, into the holiest space we have as a people. While they may diverge in the direction they take, they will walk in together towards the holiest of sites is important. The message is sent that we can be one people and can walk together, even if we find spirituality and a connection to God, in different ways and places. We can be one people, even if we daven at the Northern or Southern Plaza. Further, now each location along the Kotel is recognized as a holy location to access one’s relationship with God. There is one Kotel and one people to daven at this location.

The truth is this lesson is not new to us. This idea is one of the most fundamental principles of Conservative Judaism and at the foundation of what makes WJC such a holy community. At its heart and soul, Conservative Judaism is a pluralistic movement. This means that it welcomes this and that at its core . . . egalitarian davening and gender segregated davening, musical instruments on Shabbat and only aca-pella davening on Shabbat. For the Conservative movement, perhaps one of the hardest things to wrap our minds around, there is no one way to access the divine, as long as it fits in the parameters of halachah (as understood by the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards). What is of utmost importance is the fact that Jews, of all backgrounds, engage and find meaning and we appreciate the journey we are all on together.

This idea is new for the Kotel, but it is not new for us at WJC. We have been walking through the doors of WJC together and finding different ways to access God and find meaning on our own personal journeys. We walk through the doors early in the morning to drop off our children in our Early Childhood Center to begin our youngest children’s connection to Judaism and their world of learning. We come back in the afternoon to ensure that our elementary aged children have a proper foundation of Jewish knowledge and begin to form their own relationship with God. And later in the day our high schoolers come to learn and build on the solid foundation that has been put in place. We come during the day to learn in an Adult Education Class. Twice a day we come through the side door to daven with the minyan and connect with God in a way that is authentic to each person in the room. On Shabbat we come through the doors and learn and pray throughout the building, whether we find holiness in Rabbi Segelman’s class, the service in the Sanctuary, the Contemporary Service, Torah for Tots, Youth Services, Jr. Congregation or Teen Schmooze.

No matter what, we walk in together, daven, learn, schmooze and nourish our souls (and most often our bodies too)! The truth is, the most important part is that we come in the doors together and though we might not all be together while in the building, we can walk out together and say see you next time.

It might be confusing at WJC which entryway is open when. The truth is, whichever door you go through, let’s go through it together.

In Memoriam
Our congregation mourns the loss of our member and friend Morton Kotkin. His devotion to the Shabbat and weekday services and his great love of Judaism and Jewish life will be missed. Our condolences are extended to his wife Naomi and his children and grandchildren.
Dear Congregants,

Among the most important functions of a synagogue community is consistently and continuously showing its children and their families the joys of Judaism. I hope you already know about the new programs in new configurations we’ve been creating with our educational staff - Sabrina Landau, Director of the Early Childhood Center, Aleza Kulp, Education Director and Congregation Program Coordinator & staff liaison to the PJ Library Program, and Shoshi Rosenbaum, Director of Teen Engagement. We’ve also developed new ways for lay leaders to oversee how WJC is serving our children and their parents, the subject of my column this month.

I invite you to participate in the process which ensures that WJC engages and enriches the Jewish lives of our children, starting with the youngest ones in Mommy and Me, going all the way through college. We have individual committees that work with each of our committed educational staff members, serving as a source of advice and information about the concerns of parents in their particular programs. Sabrina works with the ECC Policy and Procedures Committee, made up of interested parents from the ECC Community, co-chaired this year by Betsy Goldman and Anna Weiser.

Aleza and the Kindergarten through Seventh Grade parents work together in a committee which we’ve called - and still call - the Religious School Committee, but it will soon get a more comprehensive name. Aleza’s job has broadened to include youth and family as well as school activities for all WJC kids in K through 6th grades, regardless of their registration in the Religious School itself, so her advisory committee considers issues that arise in all of the programming that she does. Aleza’s committee is co-chaired by Veronica Nazarzadeh and Lisa Kern.

Students and families getting ready for their b’nai mitzvah fall under the purview of the B’nai Mitzvah committee, staffed by Cantor Goldberg and chaired this year by Jacci Kaplan. We have subcommittees of the Spiritual Life Committee, which work with clergy and Aleza Kulp on our children’s services: including Torah for Tots and Shabbat Youth Services, and another Family Service Committee chaired by Evan Schapiro, which has helped Rabbi Monosov develop the High Holiday Family Services. We have a PJ Library Committee headed by Louise Cohen, which, with Aleza Kulp, develops programs open to the entire Westchester community. Last but never least, is the Teen Committee, chaired this year by Yale Zoland and Kina Beder, which works with Shoshi Rosenbaum in her capacity as Teen Engagement Director.

Depending on the ages of your children and your particular interests, all of these committees are open to you.

As a member of an advisory committee, you’ll have meaningful input into plans and policies that affect your children, you’ll enjoy the company of other committed adults in the WJC community, and you may be the source of inspiration for our next biggest thing!

One other innovation we’ve put into place in the last two years is the creation of a Family, Youth and Education Council, which brings together representatives from all the committees, as well as any interested members of the congregation, to discuss issues which affect all of our children. FYEC discussions allow us to get a holistic picture of how we’re serving our kids and our families, and to develop new program ideas and policies, too, as needed. The FYEC is meeting once a month - preceded over by our Executive Vice-President Jeff Lavine and staffed by Executive Director Susan Lurie. I particularly invite you to our March 31 FYEC Meeting, at which we’ll begin a discussion of how well we are integrating all the aspects of Jewish education as our children grow up in our community, starting with the ECC and going through college. At that meeting, we’ll be asking for parent input on what we’re doing now. What works? What doesn’t? What are the best programs for building a Jewish identity that will last for a lifetime? No matter what committee meetings you choose to attend, I hope you’ll experience the joy of working face-to-face with others as we build our synagogue community. WJC members are a pleasure to know.

Please contact the office (adminaat@wjcenter.org) or me (president@wjcenter.org) or any of the staff or individual committee chairs to find out when the committee you’re interested in meets next. We are all working together to give our children the connections to Judaism and the Jewish Community that we want for them, and the best way to inspire them is by example!

Looking forward to seeing you at WJC this spring, of course at the always hilarious Purimshpeil on March 13, and especially at our Spring Gala honoring Yale and Wendy Zoland and Rabbi Monosov on Sunday evening, April 3. I hope you can join us, and that you will show your support for WJC and these exceptional honorees by taking out an ad in the Gala Journal. (Contact Sherry Thaler at Sherry@thethalers.net or find the form on our website at www.wjcenter.org/Our_Community/ Committees/Dinner_Dance)

Best, G.

Shabbat and Holiday Services

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

Friday, Mar. 4 ...................................................... Traditional Kabbalat Shabbat ................................. 5:30pm
...................................................... Rhythm and Ruach .............................................. 7:30pm
Saturday, Mar. 5 ...................................................... Bar Mitzvah of Maia Glazer ......................... 9:30am
...................................................... Teen Schmooze ............................................. 10:30am
...................................................... Mincha Bat Mitzvah of Sydney Grodin .............. 5:15pm
...................................................... Kabbalat Shabbat ............................................. 5:45pm
Saturday, Mar. 12 ...................................................... Bar Mitzvah of Bradley Magrana .................... 9:30am
...................................................... Mincha Bat Mitzvah of Maya Kennedy ............. 5:30pm
...................................................... Kabbalat Shabbat ............................................. 6:45pm
Saturday, Mar. 19 ...................................................... Shabbat Service ............................................. 9:30am
...................................................... Mincha Ma’ariv ................................................... 6:30pm
 ...................................................... Children’s Megillah Reading ........................... 5:00pm
...................................................... Congregational Megillah Reading ................. 7:30pm
Thursday, Mar. 24 ...................................................... Megillah Reading ........................................... 7:00pm
...................................................... Purim – Schacharit ............................................ 6:15am
 ...................................................... Kabbalat Shabbat ............................................. 7:00pm
...................................................... Bar Mitzvah of Bradley Magrana .................... 9:30am
...................................................... Contemporary Service .................................. 10:15am
Saturday, Mar. 26 ...................................................... Shabbat Services ............................................ 9:30am
...................................................... Mincha Ma’ariv ................................................... 7:00pm

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
My name is Sydney Grodin and I have been attending WJC since I was in kindergarten. I’m a 7th grader at Hommocks Middle School on Team 4. My favorite subjects are social studies and math. I played modified soccer this past fall and I have been enjoying being on the Mamaroneck travel soccer team since first grade. I also love tennis and basketball.

I spend my summers at Camp Wayne for Girls in Preston Park, Pennsylvania. It’s an incredible camp where I have made lifelong friendships and get the opportunity to do so many amazing activities and meet interesting people. I have two brothers, Reggie and Tyson who are 9 and 5.

Hi! My name is Maya Kennedy. I am very excited for my Bat Mitzvah. I started coming to WJC in preschool. I have been deep in preparation for my Bat Mitzvah, and I can’t wait for the big day.

I am 12 years old and a 7th grader at Hommocks Middle School. After school, besides participating in Hebrew school, I dance and do musical theatre. I take tap and jazz at A Dance Studio in Larchmont, and ballet at the JCC of Mid-Westchester in Scarsdale. Besides dance, I love to hang out with my friends and family. I spend the summer at Camp Med-O-Lark in Maine. I am very excited to see my camp friends at my Bat Mitzvah.

I would like to thank Cantor Alcott for preparing me for the bimah. I would also like to thank Rabbi Monosov for helping me with my D’var Torah and Rabbi Segelman and Cantor Goldberg for their support. Next, I’d like to thank my sister, Sonya, for helping me with the Hebrew when I was confused and for always believing in me. Last, but definitely not least, I would like to thank my Mom and Dad for their constant support throughout this process. I can’t wait for the day to come!
Hello! My name is Bradley Magram, and I am currently attending the 7th grade at the Hommocks Middle School. I enjoy social studies, math and hanging out with my friends. On the weekends, I enjoy playing sports and playing with my two dogs Mini and Cooper. This past summer I attended Camp Young Judaea in New Hampshire with my younger sister. At camp, I learned more about the history and traditions of Judaism and what it means to me as a young adult. Each and every week my bunkmates and I would look forward to the Friday night and Saturday morning services.

I look forward to my upcoming bar mitzvah on March 12th, 2016. Going through this experience has helped me prepare for all of the new responsibilities that lie ahead of me, experience has helped me prepare for all of my future endeavors.

I'd like to thank my dad for all his support and my siblings Teddy, Jeremy, and Alexandra because, with them, I wouldn’t be who I am today.

My name is Olivia Fink. I am in 7th grade at Hommocks Middle School. My favorite things to do are playing basketball, soccer, swimming, skiing, watching Netflix, reading books and hanging out with my friends. I also play the piano and clarinet. My favorite subjects are Social Studies and English.

Every summer I go to Camp Sproutlake, a Young Judea camp in Poughkeepsie. At camp, I like to sing Jewish songs and learn about Israel. I’ve also made some wonderful friends.

I have a younger brother named Max. My family travels a lot and I look forward to our adventures. My dad is British and we go to England every year, where I get to spend time with my family.

I have been coming to WJC since I was one year-old. I’ve learned a lot about my Jewish heritage and how to learn Hebrew over the years. I would like to thank all my teachers, Aleza Kulp, and especially Cantor Alcott and Cantor Goldberg for teaching me my D’var Torah. I’d also like to thank Rabbi Segelman and Rabbi Monosov for helping me prepare my Bar Mitzvah. Most of all, I’d like to thank my parents for always being there for me and making this Bar Mitzvah a special occasion.

Rabbi Monosov’s privilege to learn, pray and celebrate with so many WJC families and to work with such a talented team of clergy and professionals.

While at WJC, Rabbi Monosov and her husband Jeremy welcomed both of their daughters, Hannah and Yael and were privileged to celebrate their entrance into the covenant with the WJC community. On a personal level, the Monosovs have loved being part of the community. The friendships and relationships that they have with so many members of WJC have been a highlight of their experience here.

Rabbi Monosov is grateful to the WJC community for this tribute and is thrilled to be sharing this evening with Wendy and Yale Zoland, a family that has worked tirelessly for WJC and the Jewish community. A well deserved mazel tov to them!

Please join us at WJC on Sunday, April 3rd for a ‘Starry Night’ of cocktails, dinner, dancing and celebration!

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

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.

‘A Starry Night’...continued from page 1

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 Achashve...
WJC is “all about” LEGO during the month of March!

ALEZA KULP, EDUCATION DIRECTOR & CONGREGATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Automatic Binding Brick, now known to kids today as a LEGO brick, was first introduced in 1949. Today, this popular toy has become a favorite for our children! I see the younger children bringing little mini-figures in their pockets to synagogue on Shabbat! Children talk about their visits to LEGOLAND and even share thoughts on the latest LEGO Star Wars figures. It only seems fitting that LEGO come to WJC! In the beginning of March, we invite all our WJC children to come play LEGO games, build with LEGO and even create an edible brick lollipop to take home. We will have fun illustrating our own LEGO people and building with friends. In addition to our youth event on March 13, since the first brick was made only one year after Israel became a state, it seems fitting that the children in the Religious School Classroom Elective LEGO, on March 2, 9 and 16 will learn about the Old City of Jerusalem by building with LEGO. Students will have the opportunity to build each gate with LEGO while at the same time learn about the eight gates that welcome people into the Old City. Both programs promise to be fun and a great way for our children to connect to friends at WJC!

TEENS’ CORNER

A Memphis Experience to Remember...

By Benji Shokrian

I was fortunate to be part of the first WJC teen trip to Memphis over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. On this trip we visited a local synagogue for dinner, participated in community service at two farms and enjoyed old Memphis. My favorite experience during the trip was visiting the Civil Rights Museum. We went to the museum two times. First, we explored the museum and saw the different exhibits. It was moving to learn and see the struggles the African-American people had to endure through the years. The second time we visited, we stood outside the museum for a celebration on MLK day. My favorite part was seeing where Martin Luther King Jr. was shot. This was very touching because he did so much in his lifetime and made an impact on so many people. This was the highlight of my trip for me since I enjoy studying history. I would recommend a WJC trip to any teen because it is an exciting way to visit other places with your Hebrew High friends. We all enjoyed this Memphis experience together and cannot wait for the next trip. Can’t wait to see where we will go!

Social Action Community Day

SONDRA LEVY, SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The Social Action Committee held another successful Community Day on February 7. Over 25 people attended, preparing baked ziti, salad, sandwiches, cookies and decorating special Valentine’s Day bags for our neighbors at the HOPE Soup Kitchen in New Rochelle. Special thanks to Sharon Moseson, Tammy Cohen and Virginie Berg for shopping and organizing each part of the event. As usual, thanks to Jose Luis and his staff for the quick turnaround set up and clean up.
KOL DICHFIN

...Let all who are hungry come and eat...

AND IT DEPENDS ON YOU

PROJECT EZRA FOOD DRIVE
March 6th-April 10th, 2016

All members! Families! Teens! Religious School Students!

Help our elders on the Lower East Side celebrate the holiday with dignity and joy. Help families, the sick and the elderly in the Bronx prepare for Passover. The whole family can help fulfill the mitzvah this Passover by bringing most needed current, certified OU Kosher for Passover foods for poor, elderly Jews to WJC from March 6th to April 10th. Help to pack or deliver food on Sunday, April 10th.

MOST NEEDED FOODS

- 2 cans of tuna, salmon or sardines
- 2 cans of fruit
- 2 cans of vegetables
- small bottle of vegetable oil
- small bottle of grape juice
- dried fruits or nuts
- jar of jam or jelly
- small jar of honey
- box of tea bags or jar of instant coffee
- matzo farfel

Look for the marked bins near the library, the office, and the religious school.
Contact Sharon Silver at Sraplata@msn.com or call 914-698-9662.

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP: GIVE TZEDAKAH - Write a check payable only to “Project Ezra” and drop it off at WJC’s Social Action mailbox, attention Sharon Silver. All checks will be delivered to Project Ezra in time for Passover.

Make this a sweet Pesach for all!
All WJC Members
Families & Teens
Distribute Passover
Food in the Bronx!
KOL DICHFIN- Part 2
...Let all who are hungry come
and eat...

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE VISITS
FOR PASSOVER
April 10th

Every year the Bronx Jewish Community
Council makes up hundreds of shopping
carrier bags filled with foods for Passover and
needs you to help deliver them to the
homebound living in the old Jewish
neighborhoods of the Bronx. This is an
activity for all ages, particularly teens. You
receive names, maps and food to deliver to
the agency’s clients. You do a mitzvah by
providing ten minutes of warm, personal
contact.

ON SUNDAY MORNING, April
10th, you can go directly to the B’nai
B’rith Building, 2050 Bartow Ave., (near
Co-op City) any time between 9am and
1pm to pick up the Passover bags.
Or meet to caravan as a group in the
WJC lower parking lot at 9:00am. If you
wish, you can request a neighborhood
or as many places you have time for.
Even if you have only an hour –that
means reaching three people whom you
have not met before who are awaiting a
friendly face. Contact Ruth Obernbreit
Glass at Ruthie6851@gmail.com or call
(914) 980-2127 with any questions.

Some get delivered to houses…

WJC teens register and
get maps, addresses, and
contact information.
Recipients are waiting
and eager to say hello.

Some get delivered to
Apartment houses

The one-stop center for your
pet’s health, boarding, grooming,
training and day care needs.

Mamaroneck
Veterinary Hospital
and the Pet Resort

Dr. Raphael Z. Gilbert
Veterinary Medicine and Surgery

649 West Boston Post Road
Mamaroneck, NY 10543
Tel: 914-777-0398 Fax: 914-777-2523
www.mamaroneckvet.com

These shopping bags are filled
with Passover foods and need you
to deliver to elders in the Bronx!

Bronx Passover Drive
We have been seeing a growing turnout of folks to the Israeli dancing scene at WJC, with beginners as well as former dancers returning after a number of years. It’s not too late to join us and learn some new dances in time for the WJC Spring Gala, this year’s b’nei mitzvahs and weddings, and just to get in better shape by the warmer weather.

Today’s dances are set to modern Israeli music, which is a fusion of Middle Eastern, Hassidic and pop flavors that will lift your spirits. Many of the songs we dance have spiritual texts from the bible or prayer book, so you can actually dance your prayers! (Yedid Nefesh, Tsaddik Katamar, Birkat HaCohanim, etc.) Our wonderful teacher Shmulik Gov-Ari (who also teaches at our Nursery School) is easy to learn from and very patient with beginners. Shmulik also spends time teaching the meaning behind the words and giving an occasional brief d’var torah (he is the son of a rabbi). Who knew dancing can be this intellectually stimulating?

If this were not enough to convince you to try it, here’s an even better reason. Dancing has been medically proven to be good for your body and good for your brain. A long-term study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that dancing was the only physical activity associated with a significantly lower risk of dementia. You’ve read that doing crossword puzzles and chess are good to keep your mind fit? Well, the study showed that dancing is much more effective than any crosswords and chess are good to keep your mind fit? Well, the study showed that dancing is much more effective than any crosswords and chess are good to keep your mind fit?

The full text of the medical study can be found here: http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa022252#t=articleTop

Our program meets every Monday evening (except during holiday weeks), from 7:30 pm to 10 pm. We serve light refreshments and ice cold water, which feels great when you’ve worked up a sweat.
Eating Humanely/Sustainably/Ethically
Steps Toward Humanely Raised Meat and Sustainable Food on our Plates
BY ARLENE NOVICH, GREEN COMMITTEE

Jewish law is very clear about our obligation to prevent the suffering of animals, and yet our modern factory farms circumvent the spirit of Jewish law. It’s difficult, often painful, to think about the treatment of our food animals on factory farms, or the thought of the abuse, fear, disease, torturous confinement so that we may eat that hamburger, chicken, omelet or that hot dog on the grill. It can ruin our appetites!

Jewish law is also very clear about our stewardship of our planet for future generations. Raising meat animals at the present rate is unsustainable. It is water intensive, using water to grow crops for food animals which could be used for crops for human consumption. It is contributing to climate change, with methane produced by cows being one of the worst greenhouse gases. Waste from these large animal confinement areas is a serious contributor to water pollution. And the negative impact on us humans from overuse of antibiotics and hormones on animals is a serious problem.

Here are some steps we can all take to make more ethical food choices:

- Two companies that pride themselves on selling kosher meat from humanely and ethically raised animals are KOL (kolfoods.com) and Grow and Behold (growandbehold.org). Check them out. Their websites make ordering easy and are full of valuable information.
- Ask your butcher to offer ethically raised meat and poultry. Enough requests mean there’s a market for it, and that means a wise business move! Maybe we can get a movement going!
- Buy organic (not just free range) chicken and eggs. Free range alone often means very little.
- Reduce the amount of meat we eat and take the Meatless Monday challenge! Just one day a week!
- Buying at farmers’ markets or CSAs supports and promotes smaller local, environmentally friendly farms.
- Buy organic, pesticide-free, fair trade products- healthier for us and the planet.
- Have a vegetarian kiddush or function. Delicious, and will inspire others to try it.
- Eat only meat, milk and eggs from animals that have not been given antibiotics and hormones.
- Read labels! You’d be surprised what your family is eating!

To help us all move to a more plant-based diet, stay tuned for a fun and informative vegetarian/vegan nutrition program coming in April.

We can solve much of this problem by eating less meat and when we do eat meat, trying to follow the spirit of Jewish law by not causing undue suffering of animals.
Caring for Ourselves
Sabrina Landau, Early Childhood Center Director

Every morning upon waking, we recite many blessings thanking God for fulfilling our basic needs. These blessings, known as *Birkhot Hashahar* (the blessings of the morning), praise God for giving us intelligence, understanding and a place to live. We thank God for creating us and for the simple things in life like our bodies. As each blessing is recited, one cannot help but feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude for all that we have. Along with this, however, comes a sense of responsibility. We are charged to take care of this world we were given and as well as our bodies with which we were blessed.

One of the blessings is that of "sheasani betzalmo" (for creating me in His image). Being created in the image of the Divine Creator takes our responsibility to a new level. We are blessed with our bodies, minds, hearts and souls and are charged to care for them.

In the ECC, the children learn about taking care of their bodies. Nutritious snacks are served, healthy hand washing is encouraged, physical fitness is promoted, deep breathing and mindfulness are practiced, and even tooth brushing is discussed. In February, dental awareness month, two dental hygienists visited our school and taught us all how to care for our teeth. They allowed us to practice brushing with the help of a very large toothbrush and two dinosaur puppets. We learned to brush for two full minutes in a circular motion and not to forget our tongues. They also demonstrated proper flossing using a jump rope and our ECC children as props.

Here are a few photos from the event.

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CEREA L for Purim
Sondra Levy, Social Action Committee

We have a unique way of collecting our cereal this month for the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Food Pantry. One of the Mitzvot of Purim is to provide food for the needy. Help us fulfill this Mitzvah by bringing boxes of cereal to the Megillah Reading on March 23, 2016. The cereal boxes can be used as groggers during the service and then can be donated to the food pantry. Any questions, contact Sondra Levy sklevy8@gmail.com.

CRC Thanks WJC for Warm Clothing Drive
Ruth Oehrnbreit Glass, Social Action Committee

WJC was instrumental in providing much needed new warm clothing for clients of the Community Resource Center. Along with donations from other community groups, the community felt taken care of by their neighbors. Thank you again to all who participated in our Holiday Drive this year!

Please go to this link on You Tube and watch the video tribute Community Resource produced in our honor: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WiOkiXXvrlQ

Dear WJC:

*Muchas gracias por todo
Su apoyo y ayuda que nos han regalado a las familias y a la
mía y a los de mi que Dios me las cuide
Mucho y me las proteja siempre. Les deseo mucho amor, paz en compañía de sus seres queridos
Milian, Eduardo y Raúl*
Brotherhood Softball Team Seeks 4\textsuperscript{th} Championship In 5 Years. Join Us!

Starting each April, the WJC Brotherhood Men’s Softball Team participates in the Westchester Hebrew Softball League, with 18 teams representing Synagogues and Jewish Men’s Organizations across the County. While the League has become increasingly competitive, the WJC Team has improved continually since 1986, achieving its first ever Championship in 2012 and repeating in 2014 and 2015.

This past Fall, our latest championship was highlighted by twin 1-0 victories in a two of three semi-final series vs. Temple Beth El of Chappaqua, and wins of 3-2 and 9-0 vs. long-time nemesis B’nai B’rith in the championship round.

As always, we are committed to improvement. It is our hope that there are some WJC members who can join and help us defend our Championship. \textbf{If you are a player who is both competitive and committed (16+ years of age) -- and available on most Sunday mornings please call for details.} The team looks forward to hearing from you right away.

Art Kaplan 914.948.1178, Dan Kaplan 914.522.7870.

Practice scheduled for Sunday, April 3. Season opener is April 10.
The WJC Space Committee needs your help! We want to continue our efforts to improve the ambiance at WJC and make it a more comfortable, welcoming and vibrant environment for our members. Our goal is to:

• Improve the front area of the synagogue to keep congregants informed of upcoming events with better signage and help make the area more pleasant and inviting.

• Create a beautiful new Youth Lounge that has more comfortable and functional spaces, as well as storage for the many needs of our congregants of all ages.

• Modernize the current “Bridal Suite” into a cozy and private area for pre-party preparation and rest space.

We have been working very hard to put together plans that will improve our experiences at WJC, but funds for this project are not in the Center’s budget. That’s where you come in. You can help make this happen by contributing to the WJC “Comfy Spaces Fund”!

All donations will be used directly to make WJC a more comfortable and inviting space for all of us. Please make out your donation to the “WJC Space Committee” -- No amount is too small!

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

The Space Committee

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**SHALOM BABY**

לשלום

Are you a parent or a grandparent with a new baby in your family?

WJC’s PJ Library has a special gift for you!

Mazel Tov!!

Please contact Aleza Kulp
(914) 698-2966 or educdir@wjcenter.org

---

**Beneath the Helmet**

From High School to the Home Front

Please join us for a screening of Jerusalem U’s new film
This fundraiser event is to benefit the Lone Soldier Center in Israel, a nonprofit organization.

**Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 7:30pm**
(in the Activity Center)

This US, turning 18 means going to college or attending a gap-year program in Israel or elsewhere. In Israel, turning 18 means joining the army for three years. Israelis go from being students to soldiers in a matter of months.

**Beneath the Helmet** provides an intimate glimpse into the transitions, adjustments and challenges of the new recruits. Experience the awesome responsibility placed on soldiers and young commanders who are tasked with turning a bunch of kids into effective defenders of the Israeli people. Along the way, learn about brotherhood, sacrifice and many other values that have informed the Jewish People for the last 3,500 years.

Daniel Scopp, son of our members Iris and Lee Scopp, will share his recent experience undergoing basic training and serving as an IDF paratrooper.

**Admission $10 – Invite Your Friends!**

Funds collected over the cost of the license fee will be donated.

Coffee, tea, refreshments and popcorn will be served.

RSVP to Linda Alpert Karell at: LINDA@ALPERTMEDIATION.COM

WJC Israel Committee

---

Jessica Jacobson

phone: 917.373.3219
fax: 914.725.5210
jessica@jacobsonbradlow.com
www.jacobsonbradlow.com
21 Myrtledale Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583
Mondays, March 14, 7:00pm & April 4, 7:45pm

Interfaith Book Group WJC’s Roundtable for Interfaith Activities, Social Action Committee & Hendel Family Library invite you to discussions of two short books: *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin and *Between the World and Me* by Ta Nehisi Coates. March 14 location to be announced; April 4 at WJC Hendel Library.

Saturday, April 2 & Sunday, April 3

Bring Most Needed Kosher for Passover Foods to WJC when you attend the Scholar-in-Residence Program on Saturday, April 2 and A Starry Night Spring Gala on Sunday, April 3.

Scholar-in-Residence Re-scheduled for April 2

Welcome Back Deborah Dash Moore, PhD
Please join us as we welcome back our 2016 Scholar-in-Residence, Professor Deborah Dash Moore, on Saturday, April 2. We will continue our conversation that was disrupted by the snowstorm.

9:30am - Morning Service: CITY SLICKERS: How one girl’s childhood in New York inspired a career of asking questions about the past, and the power of American urban family stories.

12:15pm - Kiddush Lunch

1:00pm - HOW JEWISH PHOTOGRAPHERS PICTURED THE MODERN WORLD AND SHAPED OUR VISION OF IT: An illustrated conversation.

Wednesday, April 13, 7:30pm

Israeli Movie - Beneath the Helmet: From High School to the Home Front

Join us for a special screening of Jerusalem U’s new film to benefit the Lone Soldier Center in Israel.

This film provides an intimate glimpse into the transitions, adjustment and challenges for young Israelis when they turn 18 and go from being students to soldiers in a matter of months.

Daniel Scopp, son of our members Iris & Lee Scopp, will share his recent experience undergoing basic training and serving as an IDF paratrooper.
Sisterhood News

Ileen Greenberg and Raelin Kantor, Co-Presidents

You can help make a difference at WJC with Sisterhood. Join Carol Fasman at our gift shop, as she helps our upcoming bar/bat mitzvah kids choose beautiful tallitot, yarmulkes, Kiddush cups, Shabbat candlesticks, etc., to help mark their special day. The gift shop also has a large selection of special housewarming gifts, birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding gifts and more. By the way, Carol is always looking for Sisterhood Gift Shop Volunteers to help out.

It’s fun, and you will be able to meet many congregants while helping Sisterhood.

Please contact Carol Fasman at cfasman@gmail.com to make an appointment.

We are headed to the Jewish Museum Exhibit Tour of “Unorthodox” on Tuesday, March 8th. Looks like we are at capacity, but just in case a spot opens, and you are interested, contact Susan Levy at sl16@aol.com (next time be sure to sign up early.)

Join us Monday, April 4th as we discuss The Bridal Chair: A Novel by Gloria Goldreich with our Larchmont Temple Sisterhood Joint Book Club.

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. Entrance fee at the door.

Tuesday, April 19th, Mah Jongg RSVP to Debbie Katz at 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, 7:30pm Joint UJA/WJC and Larchmont Temple Sisterhoods event at MADE in Mamaroneck. Come and create a beautiful art project with us!

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

Sisterhood recently emailed a letter to all new female WJC members (as of August 2015) to offer a complimentary Sisterhood Membership for the first membership year. If you are a new member and didn’t receive our email, please let us know. We will add you to our membership list, which entitles you to a 10% discount at the Sisterhood Gift Shop!

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. We now have plenty of leaves waiting for commemorations. Contact Susan Levy for more information at sl16@aol.com or pick up a card by the tree.

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. This means 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

Our synagogue is filled with women who are viewed as “Aishet Chayil,” a woman (women) of valor. We, as a congregation value the participation of you, our special woman of valor, to our community and hope that your continued participation and support can and will help us all to grow, flourish and plant roots for our youth.

Until next month, your Sisters
Adult Education Fund
In memory of...
Claire Meadow
From Ritchie, Lisa & Margot Zeitoun
Kenneth Mandel
From Sarene Shanus & Harold Treiber
Morty Kotkin
From Sandra & Seymour Levine
Cynthia Wilcox
Maritx Alcina
Harriet & Eric Meyerhoff

Cantor’s Fund
In honor of...
Kate Solomon's Bat Mitzvah
From Linda & Jeffrey Solomon

With appreciation to Cantor Goldberg in preparing
Halle & Max for their B’nei Mitzvah
in Israel
From Susan & Herb Myers

Memorial Fund
In memory of...
Marilyn Freiman
From Leslie Porosoff
Morris & Fanny Markowitz
From Jack Rosenthal
David Bergner
From Robert Bergner
Sheldon Lieberbaum
From Suzie Rabinowitz
Avi Farkas
From Laurence & Rose Farkas
Murray Carlin
From Glenn Carlin
Rudolf Lewy
From Glenn Lewy
Kenneth Mandel
From Leslie & Wayne Josel
Abby & Gabriel Tolchinsky
Cindy & Randy Heller
Barbara & Barry Novick
Bonnie Silverman & David Natus
Michele & Peter Sloane
Morty Kotkin
From Arthur & Shamala Seelenfreund
Cindy & Randy Heller
Beth & Steven Korotkin
Jackie & Sol Israel
Marian C. Raftery
Sandra & Jack Grunenberg
Barbara & Barry Novick
Marilyn & Robert Reader
Bonnie Silverman & David Natus
Peggy Lowenstein & Steve Berez
David & Ellen Berman
Dvora Rabino & Herb Leventer
Gail & Jerry Robinson
Randall Freides & Drew Freides
Geraldine Zelson
From Steve & Beth Korotkin
Claire Meadow
From Sheila & Martin Freisman
Sandra & Seymour Levine
Barbara & Barry Novick
Eleanor Fleisch
From Bonnie Silverman & David Natus
Sheila & Martin Freisman
Morton Tanenbaum
From Amy & Mark Holtzer
Phyllis London
From Michele & Peter Sloane
Gail & Marty Marcus
Cindy & Randy Heller
Milton Tannenbaum
From Paul Tannenbaum
Ruth Leaf
From Sondra & Joel Leaf
Anne Adler
From Sandra Schwarz
Elizabeth Kondor
Gabriela Gorodischer

Holocaust Memorial Fund
In memory of...
Phyllis London
From Cindy & Ben Golub
Caren & Richard Gerszberg
Morty Kotkin
From Cindy & Ben Golub
Kenneth Mandel
From Caren & Richard Gerszberg
Cindy & Ben Golub
Edwin Kauffman
From Caren & Richard Gerszberg
Eleanor Fleisch
From Caren & Richard Gerszberg
Claire Meadow
From Cindy & Ben Golub
Charles Meyer
From Cindy & Ben Golub

Kiddush Fund
In honor of... the engagement of Uri Segelman to
Yael Cohen
From Janie & Adam Frieman

In memory of...
Claire Meadow
From Sarene Shanus & Harold Treiber
Sharon & David Brause
Janie & Adam Frieman
Morty Kotkin
From Sarene Shanus & Harold Treiber
Sharon & David Shafritz
Glen Applebaum & Cynthia Cohen
Janie & Adam Frieman
Pearl Mizrachi
From Pam & Howard Mizrachi
Kenneth Mandel
From Cheryl & David Brause
Glen Applebaum & Cynthia Cohen
Janie & Adam Frieman
Benjamin Applebaum
From Glen Applebaum & Cynthia Cohen
Charles Meyer
From Janie & Adam Frieman
Sarene Shanus & Harold Treiber
Faith Balish
From Janie & Adam Frieman
Geraldine Zelson
From Janie & Adam Frieman
Morton Tanenbaum
From Janie & Adam Frieman

Nursery School Fund
In memory of...
Morty Kotkin
From Beth El Nursery School

Richard Bardari
65 Anderson Avenue
Moonachie, NJ 07074
201-664-2465
Fax: 201-664-1376
Cell: 201-481-3609
rick@foremostcaterers.com
www.foremostcaterers.com
The Review 17

www.wjcenter.org

Rabbi Monosov's Fund
In honor of...
Rabbi Monosov
From Judith & Fred Berlin
Kate Solomon's Bat Mitzvah
From Linda & Jeffrey Solomon

With appreciation to Rabbi Monosov in preparing Halle & Max for their B'nei Mitzvah in Israel
From Susan & Herb Myers

In memory of...
Phyllis London
From Katie McLoughlin & Roy Katz
Jack Freides
From Randall & Drew Freides
Barbara Freides
From Randall & Drew Freides

Judaica Gallery Fund
In honor of...
40th Anniversary of Iris & Lee Scopp
From Amy Levine-Kennedy & Kostya Kennedy

In memory of...
Leo Kohn
From Sandra Levine

Social Action Fund
In memory of...
Kenneth Mandel
From Gail & Marty Marcus
Marilyn & Robert Reader
Lisa, Ritchie & Margot Zeitoun
Sondra & Joel Levy
Claire Meadow
From Adele & Robert Shansky
Sondra & Joel Levy
Ruth Rosenberg Levine
From Myra Harris
Phyllis London
From Myra Harris & Alan Lubitz
Marilyn & Robert Reader
Ruth Leaf
From Sondra & Joel Levy
Marty Kotkin
From Sondra & Joel Levy
Jacob Deutsch
From Michelle Sanger

Library Fund
In memory of...
Marty Kotkin
From Betty Weissman
Shirley & Lenny Queen
Judy & Howard Zweig
Brenda & Michael Bloom
Bill & Jill Caslin
Claire Meadow
From Shirley & Lenny Queen
Judy & Howard Zweig
Betty Weissman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
In honor of...
Uri Segelman's engagement to Yael Cohen
From Shirley & Lenny Queen
Glen Applebaum & Cynthia Cohen
Kate Solomon's Bat Mitzvah
From Linda & Jeffrey Solomon

In appreciation of an Aliyah
From Swain Weiner

In appreciation of Rabbi's Tuesday Morning Torah Class
From Merrill Sugarman

In appreciation
From Fran & Leslie Shifrin

In memory of...
Eleanor Fleisch
From Ellen & Don Walker
Shari & Arnie Baum
Katie McLoughlin & Roy Katz
Kenneth Mandel
From Janice & Jerry Malett
Laurie & Stephen Girsky
Tara Slone Goldstein & Wayne Goldstein
Claire Meadow
From Gail & Marty Marcus
Ellen & Don Walker
Katie McLoughlin & Roy Katz
Marty Kotkin
From Susan & Ralph Sansolo
Alan & Laurel Benet
Gail & Marty Marcus
Janice & Jerry Malett
Katie McLoughlin & Roy Katz
Sue & Abe Mizrahi
Lisa, Ritchie & Margot Zeitoun
Edward Marcus
From Gail & Marty Marcus
Phyllis London
From Ira London & Family and Suzanne Corbin & Family
Laurie & Stephen Girsky
Tara Slone Goldstein & Wayne Goldstein
Charles Meyer
From Katie McLoughlin & Roy Katz
Jo Ann & Swain Weiner

Green Committee
In memory of...
Kenneth Mandel
From Jackie & Sol Israel
Phyllis London
From Jackie & Sol Israel

Ethiopian Immigrant Fund
In memory of...
Irving Bloom
From Addie & Ed Stein

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Fax: 914-637-9371
E-mail: Edenwok@ymail.com
Yahrzeits
According to our Memorial Tablets, the following Yahrzeits will be observed these months:

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<tr>
<th>DECEASED</th>
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<td>Gita Feuerweger</td>
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<td>Ruth Shapiro</td>
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<td>Fannie Weintraub</td>
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May their memory be a blessing.

Welcome New Members
Lauren & Eric Brown
Jacob 1
17 Madison Hill Road
Suffern, NY 10901

Natalie & Julian Goldsmith
P.O. Box 474
Litchfield, CT 06759

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
- Walter Reichman: 834-5029
- Debbie Zelenetz: 837-3988

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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………..it makes a difference
There is a Talmudic tradition, which is codified in the legal code of Maimonides, that teaches that when Mashiach comes and the world is transformed, all the books of the Prophets and the Writings will become null and void with the exception of one: the Megillah of Esther. No more Jeremiah and Isaiah and Ezekiel. No more Psalms or Proverbs or Ruth or Job. Gone. All of them. Only Esther will remain.

Why? No one seems to know. Perhaps it is because it is the book of the Bible that is most real. I know what you’re thinking: How can this book be the most real? On the surface, it reads like the biggest fairy tale of the Bible. That may be true. However, in one sense, it is the most realistic.

God is not mentioned.

In almost every other Biblical story, God swoops down from the heavens and saves the day. If that isn’t the case, then God directly appears to the hero and tells him what to do. The problem is always solved, the threat is always removed, and the people are always saved, by God.

But that’s not how it is in real life. Real life is like the Purim story. The heroes must fend for themselves. They must understand what the issues are, and they must struggle to find the answers. The other stories may be about God, but they are not about faith. Esther is about faith. It is about real people facing real problems with a real faith in themselves, and yes, in a God who is not going to swoop down and save them.

That’s real.

Maybe that’s why Esther will survive and the others will not. Maybe that is ultimately what God wants. Like any good parent, God wants to stop solving every problem and sit on the sidelines to be a source of strength as the children struggle to solve their own issues. That surely does not make the parent any less valuable, any less loving. The Book of Esther does not portray an impotent God. It shows a real one.

The word "Esther" means "hidden." When we stop waiting for some divine miracle and start looking for the God who is there but who is hidden, that’s when we have a real spiritual search. When we find God, as Mordecai and Esther surely did, and when we draw strength from our faith in that God, then we will surely make our own miracles. That’s real spirituality.
Synagogue Family

Mazel Tov & Best Wishes to Ilene & Russell Greenberg on the engagement of their son Richard to Yael Coppleson...Lauren Kotkin, daughter of Naomi and the late Morty Kotkin on her marriage to Jon Packer...Michael & Heidi Weiss on the birth of a granddaughter, Nitzan Yonah to Melanie Weiss & Rabbi Rachel Isaacs...Bob Cohen, outgoing AIPAC National President for the special tribute paid to him during the Westchester Jewish Council’s 21st Annual Julian Y. Bernstein Distinguished Service Awards Ceremony.

Condolences

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Naomi Kotkin & Family on the loss of her husband and our longtime member, Morty Kotkin...Wendy Zoland & Family on the loss of her father, Kenneth Mandel...Matthew Sawyer & Family on the loss of his father, Robert Sawyer...Suzanne Corbin & Family on the loss of her mother, Phyllis London...Abbey Moses & Family on the loss of her father, Edwin Kauffman...Howard Leaf & Family on the loss of his mother, Ruth Leaf...Jo Ann Weiner & Family on the loss of her father, Donald Edward Clarick.

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or by appointment

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Introducing

March 7, 14, 21, 28
April 4, 11, 18, 25
May 2, 9, 16, 23
June 2, 6, 16, 20, 27

*Meets Mondays except Thursday 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

“LEMON TREE”

Directed by Eran Riklis and starring Hiam Abass, this 2008 drama reveals the difficulties that a Palestinian widow faces in her own culture, as well as in Israeli society, when she pursues a legal battle to protect her lemon grove on the “green line.” The film is 106 minutes long, is in English, Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles, and is unrated.

Wednesday, March 9, 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: LINDA@ALPERTMEDIATION.COM
Sponsored by the WJC Israel Committee