

תקוותנו TIKVATENU



ISRAEL CENTER OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Volume XVIII - No.3

DECEMBER 2021

KISLEV/TEVETH 5782

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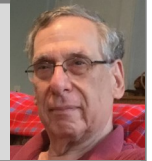
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LET OUR FAMILY WELCOME YOURS

CHANUKAH MESSAGE FROM CO-PRESIDENTS

DAVID SCHWARTZ AND SAM WEISS



Fellow Congregants,

First and foremost, we want to wish our congregational family a very happy Chanukah. We trust everyone is having their fill of jelly donuts and latkes over the course of the holiday.

Although we remain somewhat hampered by the continued pandemic, ICCJ continues to move slowly toward resumption of our full range of normal, in-person activities. As we write, we anticipate the restarting of our traditional Friday Night Shabbat Congregational Dinners on a monthly basis. We are also happy to announce that our recreational facilities are being readied for a reopening of our highly popular pool and gym Sports Clinic run by Paul and Mara Gorel. Needless to say, we remain hopeful that this trend will continue in the months to come.

Meanwhile, the repair and maintenance project we announced last month continues to make progress in addressing various issues that have come to the House Committee's attention over the past few months.

In addition, we want to thank the members of our newly resumed Social Action Committee for the wonderful job they've done in spearheading our current Food and Clothing Drives for the needy. The response by the congregation to the committee's appeal has been heartwarming.

This leads us, once again, to thank everyone responsible for keeping our wonderful ICCJ community humming, most especially during the past two difficult years.

Regards,

Dave and Sam



TIKVATENU

is available to read online

@ iccj2004.org

FROM OUR RABBI: Rabbi Moshe Saks



גמילות חסדים

Acts of Lovingkindness, called Gemilut Chasadim, are at the very core of our existence as Jews, and are essential to all as Human Beings. There are times when we're not sure how to help, or instances when we feel that we are not appreciated. I would like to share the following story with you, so that we might understand the power of compassion, and its ability to bring light to the World.

You know, he almost didn't see the old lady, stranded on the side of the road. But even in the dim light of day, he could see she needed help. So he pulled up in front of her Mercedes and got out. His Pontiac was still sputtering when he approached her. Even with the smile on his face, she was worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. Was he going to hurt her? He didn't look safe; he looked poor and hungry. He could see that she was frightened, standing out there in the cold. He knew how she felt. It was that chill which only fear can put in you. He said, "I'm here to help you ma'am. Why don't you wait in the car where it's warm? By the way, my name is Bryan." Well, all she had was a flat tire, but for an old lady, that was bad enough. Bryan crawled under the car looking for a place to put the jack, skinning his knuckles a time or two. Soon he was able to change the tire. But he had to get dirty and his hands hurt. As he was tightening up the lug nuts, she rolled down the window and began to talk to him. She told him that she was from St. Louis and was only just passing through. She couldn't thank him enough for coming to her aid. Bryan just smiled as he closed her trunk. She asked him how much she owed him. Any amount would have been all right with her. She had already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped. Bryan never thought twice about the money. This was not a job to him. This was helping someone in need, and God knows there were plenty who had given him a hand in the past... He had lived his whole life that way, and it never occurred to him to act any other way. He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that

person the assistance that they needed, and Bryan added "...and think of me." He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a cold and depressing day, but he felt good as he headed for home, disappearing into the twilight.

A few miles down the road the lady saw a small cafe. She went in to grab a bite to eat and take the chill off before she made the last leg of her trip home. It was a dingy looking restaurant. Outside were two old gas pumps. The whole scene was unfamiliar to her. The cash register was like the telephone of an out of work actor-it didn't ring much. Her waitress came over and brought a clean towel to wipe her wet hair. She had a sweet smile, one that even being on her feet for the whole day couldn't erase. The lady noticed that the waitress was nearly eight months pregnant, but she never let the strain and aches change her attitude. The old lady wondered how someone who had so little could be so giving to a stranger. Then she remembered Bryan. After the lady finished her meal, and the waitress went to get change for her hundred-dollar bill, the lady slipped right out the door. She was gone by the time the waitress came back. She wondered where the lady could be, then she noticed something written on the napkin under which were 4 more \$100 bills. There were tears in her eyes when she read what the lady wrote. It said: "You don't owe me anything, I have been there too. Somebody once helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here is what you do: Do not let this chain of love end with you." Well, there were tables to clear, sugar bowls to fill, and people to serve, but the waitress made it through another day. That night when she got home from work and climbed into bed, she was thinking about the money and what the lady had written. How could the lady have known how much she and her husband needed? With the baby due next month, it was going to be hard. She knew how worried her husband was, and as he lay sleeping next to her, she gave him a soft kiss and whispered soft and low, "Everything's gonna be all right; I love you, Bryan." Today, I sent you this story, now I am asking you to pass it on. Let this light shine. Don't put it under a basket.

"Things do not change. We change."

(Henry David Thoreau)

Rabbi Moshe Saks

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS: Michelle Fouks

Shalom from the Religious Affairs Committee,



We hope you are all well and had a wonderful Thanksgiving and beginning of Chanukah. As the Elections, Thanksgiving and early Chanukah festivities are behind us, we focus on the upcoming festivities that haven't yet taken place. If you haven't joined our nightly Chanukah Zoom candle lighting and singing please do. Check the eblast for the Zoom address. We are hoping to have a Chanukah Shabbat in-person Service on December 3rd followed by a festive dinner. Finally, a special Chanukah Celebration has been planned for Sunday, December 5, by various arms of the Synagogue and the information has been shared. A celebration is only a celebration if you join us and make it "freilich" (happy).

At Religious Affairs, we are constantly thinking and planning. We have wonderful Friday night Zoom services as well as in-person Shabbat services that are LiveStreamed and Zoom Havdallah and Maariv services every Shabbat. Finally, we have Zoom services for Maariv (and Mincha when the clock cooperates) every night from Sunday– Thursday. Once again, we invite you to join us. The more the merrier! We also have a Zoom Minyan with the Rabbi on Fridays at 9:30 AM.

If you have a yarzeit coming up, and want to ensure a minyan to say Kaddish, please try to let Rabbi Saks know a month in advance, as we would like to add to our calendar, so people can plan to attend. So far, we have been very fortunate to have a good response to our weekday evening Minyan, especially when we put out the call that a minyan is needed.

As I said, we are always looking ahead. So, the Rabbi and Religious Affairs Committee is once again planning a Tu B'Shvat Seder on the calendar for January 2022 with details to be coming soon. In addition, we are starting to plan for Purim which is at the end of February. If you have ideas, please share, as we would love it to be a Happy Celebration.



We hope you are enjoying these services, and programs, and if you have feed-back, please feel free to email me at fouksm@gmail.com.

Wishing you a Festive Chanukah and may the Chanukah candles brighten your home and life. Looking forward to seeing you all in person ASAP.

MEMBERSHIP: Betty Shaffer



Our multi-generational Chanukah party is well planned, and we hope that everyone enjoys the fun. Wishing everyone a joyous, fun-filled celebration.

There are more events taking place now in person at the synagogue and hope that more of our members feel comfortable joining us. As we have done since the beginning of the pandemic, masks and proof of

vaccination are the rule. We look forward to seeing more people as they have been vaccinated and received the boosters as well.

ICCJ is reaching out to all members for help. On February 6, 2022 we will be hosting the World Wide Wrap. ICCJ only has two pairs of tefillin. We are reaching out to all our members and their extended families asking for donations of tefillin that we can use for the Ohr Chadash students, their families and any guests. Please reach out to Nina Greebler (ngreebler@gmail.com) if you can donate or lend tefillin. Thank you.



Not
feeling
well
today..

The Chesed Committee,
headed by Sol Sturm, is here for you
Contact Sol at: storm454@rcn.com
or 718-591-5353

SISTERHOOD NEWS: Presidents Hannah Feldman & Lisa Woliner



Sisterhood thrives by achieving great feats...and our October 16 Designer Pocketbook Bingo certainly proved that. Although we tried to tie the longest bingo game in play with a nursing home in Louisiana in 2018, our game ran 5 hours, (yes, I said 5 hours).

This was our first try at a hybrid game of in-person and Zoom, which I was told worked out well. So, getting back to the 5-hour game... winning in-person and on Zoom, it took us one hour to call back the numbers. I wish we had roller skates on Mara & Paul Gorel, Betty Shaffer and Limor Brantz while they were running around the ballroom picking up winning cards to call back, all while the people playing on Zoom patiently waited their turn. After all was said and done that game had **39 winners!**



The big winners of the night were our own: Cathie Sturm & Julie Gorel, winning the Bonanza (Kate Spade Tote & Wallet) and Extravaganza (Coach

Ensemble: Weekender Traveler Bag, Wristlet and Card Wallet). Congratulations to our big winners. Not to say, that practically everyone else, either in-person or on Zoom, didn't win that night... win they did; whether it was gift cards, phone sanitizers, watches, wallets,

wine baskets, chocolate baskets, luxury pet spas and so much more.

Our volunteers, Anise & Phil Parnes, along with Nina & Adam Greebler, manned tables for additional games to be bought. Having Anise by my side, writing down the winners, was a godsend. Max Greebler, and his blessed height, was standing behind me putting in the number cards, so that everyone in the room could see what I called.

I mentioned in the last bulletin the hard work of my co-chair Mara Gorel, but I would be amiss if I didn't mention it again. Mara, thank you for your time, patience and strength for everything involved in this undertaking. Thank you to Paul Gorel for turning the other cheek and giving up his living room space for all the prizes and raffles. Thank you again to Mia Brantz and Caitlyn McCallister for helping out, to Scott Ortiz and Debbie Walsh (our security team) and to Willie, whose right hand is always there for Sisterhood, and let me say thank you to my husband, Jay, for listening to me stress over this event for months and on that night staying awake to play in my place.

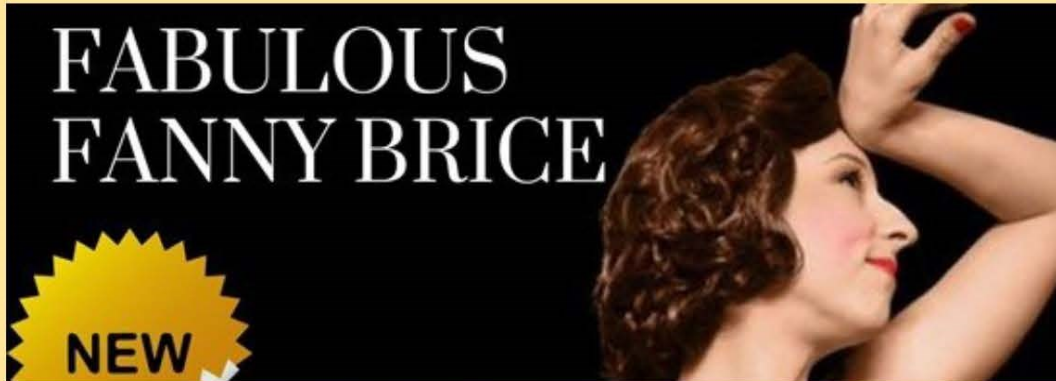
In honor of Jewish Book Month, on November 7, Sisterhood held a joint venture with the Richter Memorial Library. We read the book "The Nine" by Gwen Strauss and heard the author relay the story of her great aunt who led a band of nine female resistance fighters as they escaped a German forced labor camp. Thank you to our librarian, Arlene Ratzabi for arranging this event with the Jewish Book Council.

The following evening was our Paid-Up Membership. Thank you to our Membership Chair, Linda Korobelnik, for bringing in a fabulous program with Cantor Irene Failenbogen.

December is here. Sisterhood is busily planning a Chanukah surprise, stay tuned for details!



ICCJ SISTERHOOD AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Invites you to:



featuring a lecture and performance by

Kimberly Faye Greenberg

on

December 12, 2021 @11 AM



The legendary comedian's life was first dramatized by Barbra Streisand in the hit Broadway musical and film "Funny Girl". Come and hear Kimberly Faye Greenberg capture her hilarious spirit all over again with excerpts from her original critically acclaimed and phenomenal one-woman solo show. Q & A to follow.

The Songs and Stories of Fanny Brice will give you an up-close and personal look into the full life of the entertainer.

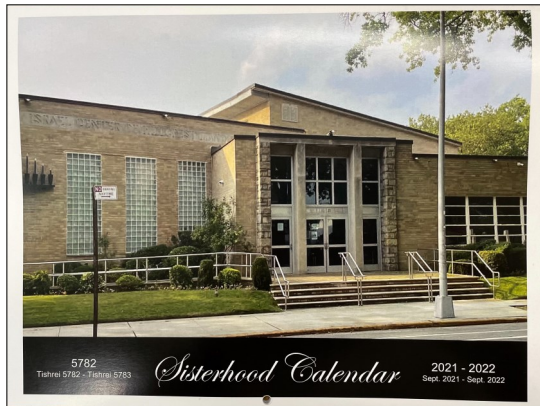
"The closest modern audiences will ever come to seeing Fanny in person." *The Huffington Post*

**Make your reservations now for the the performer's Zoom link by emailing:
lisawoliner@yahoo.com**

**To guarantee entrance, all reservations must be made
NO LATER than December 8, 2021**



A massive undertaking such as the annual Sisterhood Calendar relies upon the cooperation of the ICCJ community to be a successful project. This year, the members of our synagogue outdid themselves. Participation by our congregants with personal submissions, as well as their acquisition of ads to underwrite the expense of producing the calendar, enabled us to print it, for the first time in its history, in color.



Appreciation goes out to our advertisers who, despite the shakiness of the past fiscal year, due to Covid-19, remained loyal to us and our endeavor. We also thank the new businesses who came on board this pivotal year. We hope they will become longtime supporters.

Finally, we are grateful to resident ICCJ photographer, ICCJ co-President David Schwartz, who took the time from his hectic schedule to re-photograph the exterior of our edifice so it could grace our calendar's cover as a welcome to the new and improved interior.

For those who have been skittish about contributing to the calendar in the past, we hope our chromatic improvement will encourage you to be part of this Sisterhood fundraiser next year. Remember that by supporting the work of Sisterhood's hands you help keep ICCJ on solid fiscal ground.

Shari Zuber - Sisterhood Calendar Chairperson



Torah Fund *Each of us is one small nugget of gold, but together our small gifts reflect and refract the light inside us and help each other shine.* (WL '21)

B'Yachad, together, let's invest in the Jewish people by supporting our future rabbis, cantors, educators, social workers, camp and Hillel directors and innovative thinkers, and contributing to the annual Torah Fund Campaign, Women's League's dedicated philanthropy providing financial support to our five Conservative / Masorti seminaries.

Receive the beautiful *B'Yachad* pin, pictured above, by donating \$180 to this year's campaign • Make a contribution of \$5 by purchasing a Torah Fund card for a life cycle event • Take a Torah Fund *tzedakah* box and return it filled before the campaign year ends • Donations in any amount are welcome and appreciated!

To be a part of ICCJ's Torah Fund Campaign, please contact:
Anise Parnes, ICCJ Sisterhood Torah Fund Chair, a.parnes8166@gmail.com

Thank you for our donations!

L'shalom, Anise

SOCIAL ACTION: Philip Parnes



Thanks to the generosity of our ICCJ community, our drives collecting warm weather clothing and date-usable, nonperishable food, have been very successful! If you haven't yet made a contribution, please join us by bringing your gently used clothing and/or food donations to ICCJ by Monday, December 6. Thank you, again, for supporting both of these meaningful drives.

On a personal note, I want to thank the members of our Social Action Committee, whose efforts have been invaluable: Rita Ash, Adah Sylvan, Clarissa Weiss and Lisa Woliner. You're a great team!

Stay tuned for our next ICCJ Social Action project.

Thank you.



EDUCATION: Hannah Feldman, Nina Greebler, & Adam Greebler

November has been a very busy month for the Education Committee. On November 21, we had the privilege of learning about Jewish people in the movies and music in a talk given by Will Friedwald, a world renowned Grammy nominated author and music critic.

Mr. Friedwald showed us several movie clips and played many songs either sung or written by Jewish people, such as Bei Mir-Bistu Shein, performed by the Andrew Sisters. We learned what an important role Jewish men and women played throughout musical history. As Jews ourselves, we should be very proud of our forefathers' accomplishments. Thank you to all who attended. We hope you learned as much as we did.

On December 12, at 11:00 AM, Sisterhood and the Education Committee are pleased to present the actress Kimberly Faye Greenberg, star of the one-

woman solo show "Fabulous Fanny Brice", regaling us with stories about the icon while entertaining us via Zoom with songs from the Broadway musical "Funny Girl." It's a must see event. Please join us for this once in a lifetime event. You don't even need to leave your couches to do so.



Planning is underway for the 2022 year. Keep watching for flyers and eblasts from us. We hope to see you at all our wonderful events.

The Education Committee wishes you and your family a very happy and safe Chanukah and New Year.

YOUNG FAMILIES: Emilee Wyner

Fun with Friends at the Queens County Farm

ICCJ's Young Families gathered on Sunday afternoon, October 24, 2021 at the Queens County Farm. The group started out with a picnic lunch under gloomy skies, threatening rain and with an onslaught of bees. Luckily, the clouds cleared, the bees departed, and we were able to enjoy the many activities the farm has to offer.

The children enjoyed running around and finding different animals to see, including goats and chickens. The big hit was the pumpkin patch, which made for adorable "photo opps." Each of the children picked out their very own pumpkin to bring home with them.

The children and parents sincerely enjoyed being together. Many laughs were had and hugs given. All departed looking forward to our next gathering.





New Acquisitions in the Library: Adult Collection

Wecker, Helene. *The Hidden Palace: a novel of the Golem and the Jinni*

A follow-up to her first novel, *The Golem and the Jinni*, follows Chava and Ahmad navigate through the early twentieth century in New York and the Middle East.

Gross, Max. *The Lost Shtetl*

What if there was a town that history missed? For decades, the tiny Jewish shtetl of Kreskol existed in happy isolation, virtually untouched and unchanged. Spared by the Holocaust and the Cold War, its residents enjoyed remarkable peace. It missed out on cars, and electricity, and the internet, and indoor plumbing. But when a marriage dispute spins out of control, the whole town comes crashing into the twenty-first century.

Kaufman, Lori Banov. *Rebel Daughter*

Set in the first century CE tells the story of one Jewish girl's experiences in Jerusalem under Roman rule and during the destruction of the second temple.

Erdrich, Louise. *The Night Watchman, a novel.*

Based on the extraordinary life of National Book Award-winning author Louise Erdrich's grandfather who worked as a night watchman and carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington, D.C. **This novel won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.**

Garfinkel, Eli (Rabbi). *The JPS Jewish Heritage Torah Commentary.*

Accessible to Jews of all ages and backgrounds, Rabbi Garfinkel demonstrates the relevancy of this book in our modern lives. Its cornerstone is its unique four-part meditation on the Jewish heritage. After briefly summarizing a Torah portion, the commentary orbits that portion through four central pillars of Jewish life—the Torah (*Torat Yisrael*), the land of Israel (*Eretz Yisrael*), the Jewish people (*Am Yisrael*), and Jewish thought (*Mahshevet Yisrael*)—illuminating how the four intersect and enrich one another. Furthering the Jewish thought motif, every essay ends with two questions for thought well suited for discussion settings.

Magida, Arthur. *Code Name Madeleine: A Sufi Spy in*

Nazi-Occupied Paris

Carefully distilled from dozens of interviews, newly discovered manuscripts, official documents, and personal letters, *Code Name Madeleine* is both a compelling, deeply researched history and a thrilling tribute to Noor Inayat Khan, whose courage and faith guided her through the most brutal regime in history.

Doctorow, E.L. *City of God, a novel.*

The large brass cross that hung behind the altar of St. Timothy's, a run-down Episcopal church in lower Manhattan, has disappeared...and even more mysteriously reappeared on the roof of the Synagogue for Evolutionary Judaism, on the Upper West Side. The church's maverick rector and the young woman rabbi who leads the synagogue are trying to learn who committed this strange double act of desecration and why. Befriending them, the novelist finds that their struggles with their respective traditions are relevant to the case.

Chakrabarti, Jai. *A Play for the End of the World, a novel.*

New York City, 1972. Jaryk Smith, a survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto, and Lucy Gardner, a southerner, newly arrived in the city, are in the first bloom of love when they receive word that Jaryk's oldest friend has died under mysterious circumstances in a rural village in eastern India. Travelling there alone to collect his friend's ashes, Jaryk soon finds himself enmeshed in the chaos of local politics and efforts to stage a play in protest against the government—the same play that he performed as a child in Warsaw as an act of resistance against the Nazis.

Harmel, Kristin. *The Forest of Vanishing Stars, a novel.*

After being stolen from her wealthy German parents and raised in the unforgiving wilderness of eastern Europe, a young woman finds herself alone in 1941 after her kidnapper dies. Her solitary existence is interrupted, however, when she happens upon a group of Jews fleeing the Nazi terror. Stunned to learn what's happening in the outside world, she vows to teach the group all she can about surviving in the forest—and in turn, they teach her some surprising lessons about opening her heart after years of isolation. But when she is betrayed and escapes into a German-occupied village, her past and present come together in a shocking collision that could change everything.

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ESTABLISHING A LEGACY & AGING: Sheldon Ornstein Ed.D, RN, LNHA

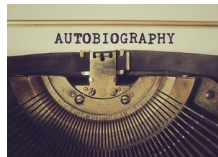
What Legacy Will You Leave Behind?

A legacy is one's tangible and intangible assets that are transferred to another and may be treasured as a symbol of the individual who is bequeathing it. The elderly

should be encouraged to identify that which they would like to leave and who they wish their recipients to be. This process has great significance and tends to prepare one to "leave" with a sense of meaning.

Legacies can provide a feeling of continuation and tangible ties to their survivors. Legacies may range from memories to material bequests that will live on in the minds of others. The researcher Erikson's seventh stage of man identifies the generative function as the main concern of the adult years and the last stage, the eighth, as that of reviewing with integrity or despair what one has accomplished.

Following are suggested legacies: oral histories, autobiographies, shared memories, works of art and music, publications, human organ donations, endowments, objects of significance, written histories, and philanthropic causes.



Legacies are identified and shared best as one approaches the end of life. According to Erikson, "Each person is a link in the chain of generations and as such, may identify with generational accomplishments." An old person may feel himself as a significant part of a generation that survived the Great Depression of 1929. A middle aged person may identify with the generation that walked on the moon. Those years of youthful idealism are impressed in one's memory by the political or ideological climate of the time.

There are many ways that one's legacy is expressed through the development of others. Here are several examples that illustrate how one's legacy can be expressed.

First Illustration – John, an aged man cried as he talked of his grandson's talent as a violinist. They both shared their love for the violin and the grandfather believed he had personally contributed to his grandson's development as a budding musician.

Second Illustration – A retired professor spoke of visiting his son in a distant state and hearing him expound ideas that had been partially developed by

the professor and his father before him.

Third Illustration – Aunt Martha worried about preserving the environment for future generations, so she took her niece on a nature walk to stimulate her interest in birds, plants and small creatures. She also donated land for a future natural park. People who amass large fortunes and allocate to certain funds for endowment of artists, scientific projects and intellectual exploration are counting on others to complete their legacy. Following are several suggestions for assisting an elder to identify and develop their legacy:

- find out their lifelong interests and discuss them with appropriate individuals;
- establish a means of recording these interests for posterity;
- record legacies with copies distributed and review for future referral.

It is gratifying to an elderly person if a legacy can be converted into some calculable form, thus ensuring that it will not readily be dismissed or forgotten. I have, at this point, offered several mechanisms that can be employed for establishing a credible legacy. One final mechanism is a series of questions to help the elderly prepare a legacy, but only if he or she is ready to do so.

- 1). Have you ever thought of writing an autobiography?
- 2). If you could leave something to the younger generation what would it be?
- 3). Have you given thought to the impact your generation has had on the world?
- 4). What has been most meaningful in your life?

These suggestions should readily stimulate ideas for a spontaneous discussion which is far more valid in an interpersonal way than merely parceling out cherished items with no thought as to who receives them.

One's personal items are highly charged with memories and meaning, and transferring them to friends and kin can be an emotional experience. Most important, they should never be dispersed without the owner's knowledge. It is vital that people approaching the end of life be given full opportunity to appropriately distribute their important belongings to those whom they feel will most cherish them and think about their significance.

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On a personal note:

- The golden years, a phrase frequently spoken by an older population can be a positive experience for everyone who pursues it. (Build a legacy while it is in your purview to do so!)
- The golden years offer a potentially qualitative life that was once consumed with day to day problems and issues. You overcame many of these problems. (Therefore, consider creating a legacy!)
- The golden years can sometimes be elusive to those remaining years. (A good time for establishing that legacy!)

A brief anecdote: Mary was 93 years old when she passed. Still she was known to have an uncommon yet practical philosophy about the legacy she was leaving behind. These were Mary's words. "At 93, I am both frail and tough, and toughness seems to dominate. This is my legacy." This truly was Mary's legacy. My advice to all of us is, consider adopting Mary's philosophy. It holds great possibilities

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New Acquisitions in the Library: Adult Collection

Benedict, Marie. *The Personal Librarian*

A novel about J. P. Morgan's personal librarian, Belle da Costa Greene, the Black American woman who was forced to hide her true identity and pass as white in order to leave a lasting legacy that enriched our nation.

Henkin, Joshua. *Morningside Heights, a novel.*

A novel about a marriage surviving hardship. It's about the love between women and men, and children

and parents; about the things we give up in the face of adversity; and about how to survive when life turns out differently from what we thought we signed up for.

van Iperen, Roxane. *The Sisters of Auschwitz: The True Story of Two Jewish Sisters' Resistance in the Heart of Nazi Germany*

The story of two unsung heroes of World War II: sisters Janny and Lien Brilleslijper who joined the Dutch Resistance, helped save dozens of lives, were captured by the Nazis, and ultimately survived the Holocaust.

H2I YOUTH GROUP: Youth Director Jennifer Gold

A Joint Venture of HJC, HHBJC & ICCJ

Dear Congregants,



We had a wonderful first month of programming! We explored our artistic abilities in a fun Paint 'N Sip! We also showed our intellectual skills

in some rousing games of Jeopardy and Heads Up! We also put our cooking skills to the test in an exhilarating game of Cake Wars! We had a bunch of winners from both groups :)

As a reminder, we provide programming for grades 5 through 12:

Kadima is for children in grades 5-8 and is every Sunday night from 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm. USY is for grades 9-12 and is every Sunday night from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm.

Our program locations are on a rotating basis amongst the three synagogues. Until 2022, our programs will take place at Congregation Etz Hayim at Hollis Hills Bayside.

We are looking forward to a great new month filled with amazing programs! Please take a look at our

December programs:

Kadima: Every Sunday, 6:15pm-7:30pm

USY: Every Sunday, 7:30pm-9:00pm

Location: Congregation Etz Hayim at Hollis Hills Bayside

12/5: Olympics For more information on programming or anything H2I, please feel free to email

12/12: End-of-2021 'Pool'ooza

As the fall holidays come to a close, join us for a swim in the pool as we start the year swimmingly! Please wear your bathing suit! Bring a change of clothes, plastic bag for your wet bathing suit and towel with you.

12/19: Family Feud

Survey says this one's an H2I favorite! Face off with friends as you test your knowledge of America's favorite foods, places, and activities!

If you should have any questions, please reach out at any time :) h2iyouthgroup18@gmail.com

Thank you!

OHR Chadash: School Administrator Shari Zuber



ENLIGHTENED LEARNING

As of this writing Chanukah has not even arrived and yet our school year has been brightened by numerous enrichment programs which have illuminated the school days of our students.

On Sunday, October 10th, the Giborim class spearheaded a court trial of Biblical proportions. The case of Cain vs. Humanity had our young thespians presenting the evidence against Cain for the murder of his brother, Rabbi Wise as our Wise Angel, representing G-d and providing facts and commentary about the incident and expressing his reservations about the creation of humanity as a reliable guardian of the world's inhabitants.

Cain's parents, Adam and Eve, both took the stand and each one presented a troubled family dynamic, one filled with favoritism for a selected son and an increasingly hostile sibling rivalry as their sons, Cain and Abel, matured, exacerbated by the professions they had chosen. Cain took the stand, defending his actions by claiming that no murder had been previously committed and, as such, he had no idea that his actions would result in his brother's demise.

The Chalutzim class, serving as the jurors, believed Cain's defense and acquitted him of all charges, by reason of ignorance. The Wheels of Justice do turn, albeit bumpily.

The following week, Sunday, October 24th, a very special celebration of Shabbat was held. The program began with various craft projects for the different age groups. Geshar and Giborim students each made lovely challah covers, the Chalutzim class colored in a pre-cut jigsaw puzzle of a Shabbat scene, and our Kochavim children did a scratch art of several traditional aspects of Friday evening, the candlesticks, challah, and wine goblet.

Morah Marina performed the lighting of the Shabbat candles with the accompanying *bracha* and explained her special prayers for her family that she says each Friday evening when she lights the candles at home. Morot Judy and Zehava recited the blessings for the children, the daughters and the sons respectively.

A video compilation combined the Maccabeats singing with their offspring to the tune of Baby Shark about getting ready to welcome Shabbat, Israeli school

children dedicating their Friday classes to the coming of Shabbat, Cantors from around the globe chanting various melodic renditions of *L'Cha Dodi*, and *Yigdal* and *Shalom Aleichem* being recited, accompanied by our students.



Each child partook of grape juice and a challah roll, for which they said the proper *brachot*, as well as washing their hands with the accompanying *bracha* before the prayer over the challah roll. As the children were eating, they were treated to a challah braiding demonstration, during which they saw how to shape a braided challah roll, a 3-strand mini-challah, and a 4-strand large challah. They were given the recipes for the challah, which hopefully they will prepare at home.

Friday, November 5th, was Rosh Chodesh Kislev, the month in which we celebrate Chanukah, the triumph of the Maccabees over the Syrian Greeks nearly 2200 years ago. Ohr Chadash commemorated the new month on Sunday, November 7th, with a program which served as both a learning experience of the Jewish calendar, a science lesson about the phases of the moon, and a history lesson about the first moon walk in July of 1969.

Following the video, which taught about the ciphering of the months of the Hebrew calendar and how the moon appears to us on Earth, the students were divided into four teams: Blue, Red, Green, and Amber. What followed was a brisk game of Jewpardy: The Rosh Chodesh Edition. When the board had been fully revealed, Team Blue emerged victorious.

After the competition, the school paid homage to the New Moon by consuming mini bagel pizzas, round in shape like the lunar orb. As they ate, the students and teachers watched actual footage of the launching of Apollo 11 and the landing on the moon of the LEM and the first tentative steps of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin some 52 years ago.

As the school year progresses our children are happily learning that the acquisition of knowledge not only comes from books but by experience and their experiences at Ohr Chadash are proving to be truly enlightening.

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At December's end, Ohr Chadash will conclude its stay at Congregation Etz Hayim at Hollis Hills Bayside. We want to thank Rabbi Wise and his shul for their hospitality during the fall semester and especially to Richie, their custodian, who assured that the facilities were at our disposal and everything was ready to accommodate our special school programs.

When classes resume after the winter vacation, we will be ensconced at our winter/spring home, Israel Center of Conservative Judaism, beginning on Sunday, January 9, 2022.

We also need to show our appreciation to our three Rabbis, Rabbi Kogan, Rabbi Saks, and Rabbi Wise, whose weekly visits to Ohr Chadash definitely enhance our youngsters' religious school experience.

Finally, we wish all our students and their families a joyous and bright Chanukah and a healthy and better secular New Year, especially since the Covid-19 vaccine is now available to the majority of our school. We look forward to the term ahead at ICCJ.

Chanukah Sameach

COMMUNICATIONS: Nina Greebler & Linda Korobelnik

The Communication Committee is thrilled to let everyone know that pictures for many of our synagogue events are appearing in the photo gallery as individual pages on the website. You might be surprised to see yourself in one of the photographs. Anyone who has additional pictures to share, please send them to ngreebler@gmail.com.



JTS Streiker Scholarstream class listings are updated as well. You will find these listings under Educational Opportunities. Please use the code provided when registering.

All flyers for upcoming programs are attached on the Home Page. Please click on the appropriate flyer to get

the information for all the events.

Watch for a new Mission Statement and new page under Social Action which is coming soon.

During the year, the printer for our bulletin may be unable to meet our first of the month deadline due to high volume. We suggest you visit the Publications link on iccj2004.org to view the latest issue of Tikvatenu.

Please don't be discouraged about the sound you may hear on the Streaming portal on Shabbat morning. We have had microphone problems on the lower bima during the Torah reading. Please be patient as the problem is being rectified.

We hope you and your family had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Chanukah holiday. As we look forward to the New Year ,

We wish our ICCJ family a happy and healthy 2022.

Wednesday, December 1 - Rabbi Saks' Movie Discussion Class :The Other Story - 8:00 PM

Friday, December 3 - Chanukah Shabbat Dinner - 6:00 PM

Saturday, December 4 - Tot Shabbat - 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 5 - Multi-generation Chanukah Party - 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Monday, December 6 - Sisterhood Chanukah Program - 8:00 PM

Sunday, December 12 - Sisterhood & Education Committee 'Fanny Brice' featuring Kimberly Faye Greenberg - 11:00 AM

Chaverim Musical Midrash - 7:00 PM

Monday, December 13 - Sisterhood Bingo - 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 18 - Tot Shabbat - 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 19 - Book Café - "People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present" by Dara Horn - 10:30 AM

Saturday Night, December 25 - Men's Club with Sisterhood Annual Event "I've Got a Secret" ICCJ Style



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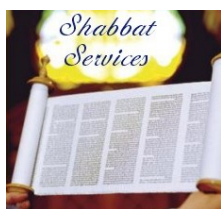
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Please join Rabbi Saks
for



**CANDLE LIGHTING
TIMES
DECEMBER, 2021**

- 12/3 - 4:09 PM - *Miketz*
- 12/10 - 4:09 PM - *Vayigash*
- 12/17 - 4:11 PM - *Vayechi*
- 12/24 - 4:14 PM - *Shemot*
- 12/31 - 4:19 PM - *Vaera*



Israel Center of Conservative Judaism
and
ICCJ Family Programming