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THE RABBI'S COLUMN: INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO PCS

By Mark Sameth

Nevada has "Burning Man".

Northern Israel has "Meron."

And now Pleasantville Community Synagogue has the "PCS Palooza." For eight consecutive days next month, PCS will host a series of classes, lectures, concerts, workshops, and social gatherings. The event is meant to be an opportunity for PCS members to invite their friends and neighbors to "taste" what PCS is about. Perhaps they'll consider joining.

There's something for everyone: yoga, meditation, musical events, and a wine-and-cheese party. PCS member, Dr. Mark Bertin, will be speaking on his new book, The Family ADHD Solution: A Scientific Approach to Maximizing Your Child's Attention and Minimizing Parental Stress. Author Meryl Hyman will teach from her book, Who is a Jew? The second grade class will help lead the Friday night service. Lisa Lipkin, and other musicians, will perform. And much, much more.

PCS Palooza is the brainchild of our Membership and Communication Committees with input and support of the Board, and we thank April

Lasher, Laurie Hirsch, Cris Martinez, and Kierstein Zweibaum for all the work they've put in so far.

But it all hinges on you. Sometime this month, you'll be getting a phone call from one of your fellow congregants and Board members asking you to invite at least one friend or neighbor to attend at least one event with you. But why wait? It's been said that PCS is one of the best kept secrets. Here's a chance to let others see what's so special about our community.

Young families with children; empty nesters looking for connection; folks with strong Jewish backgrounds; folks with no Jewish backgrounds at all; religious and "not religious, but very spiritual" – everyone is welcome to our non-judgmental community, encouraged and supported to find their own connection points, meaning and community.

Take a look at the schedule of events and think about who you'll be bringing to the PCS Palooza.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As many of you undoubtedly know, one of the most talked about books on the best seller list today is Amy Chua's The Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother, in which the author advocates a "Chinese" style of parenting. According to her this means a stricter discipline and harsh consequences when the child fails to live up to the parent's expectations. Some of her stories are hair-raising, and she also admits to modifying her methods as the child matures and can express desires more forcefully, but the book sounds to me very much like the demands immigrant Jewish parents made of their children a couple of generations ago – my own mother is an example.

In a commentary on the book, David Brooks wrote, in a recent NY Times column, that he disagreed with Chua and suggested that the discipline she advocates (i.e. the fierce violin or mathematical exercises she demands) is in some sense easier and ultimately

less productive than the socialization process (the letting go of our children to have play dates and sleepovers). He wrote that "negotiating group dynamics" is cognitively more difficult than focusing on a piece of music for four hours. I am not in a position to evaluate that statement, or to join the argument here, but I am in agreement with Brooks' idea that "participating in a well-functioning group is really hard" and I would add extremely rewarding.

All of us at PCS, and me especially, are blessed to have a very well-functioning board of directors that is recommending and implementing more ideas for attracting and engaging members than any board, in or out of the synagogue, I know. And, in contrast to other boards I have been a part of, it doesn't feel all that hard. Brooks cites a study done by MIT and Carnegie Mellon that reports "a high collective intelligence when members of a group are good at reading

each others' emotions - when they take turns speaking...when they detect each others' inclinations and strengths." This is exactly what our board has been doing and what makes the whole process a joy to participate in. To see this for yourselves, I invite anyone interested to attend a board meeting in the future. No need to notify us in advance, just show up. And while you're checking our calendar for the meeting dates, scroll down to see how many interesting and vital events we have scheduled.

- Peter Schaffer

HAFTARAH LESSONS

Starting in March, I will be teaching a class at PCS entitled Chanting the Haftarah. The class will be meeting each Wednesday evening in March at 7:30 PM, starting on March 2nd. This class is open to any PCS member who has already learned to read Torah. Another class will be held in the future for those who want to learn trope for the first time. Anyone interested in this class should contact me at philip.paris@gmail.com





**“CHICK FLICK” IN TIME FOR PURIM!
WOMEN’S ROSH CHODESH EVENT FOR ADAR
FEBRUARY 17, 7 P.M. AT PCS**

**“ONE NIGHT WITH THE KING”
THE STORY OF THE HIDDEN BEAUTY OF QUEEN ESTHER**

Come feast your eyes and ears on the lush cinematography, mesmerizing score, and an all-star cast that includes Peter O’Toole and Omar Sharif, and revisit the sweeping epic about Hadassah, the young Jewish orphan who becomes the biblical Esther, Queen of Persia. We will see how Hadassah (Esther) struggles to save her people, even as she attempts to hide her heritage, in this exciting and inspiring story about courage, faith, and destiny.

Refreshments will be served. Members and non-members welcome!
Bring your daughters, friends, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and cousins.

Please RSVP* to Estelle at 914-449-6153 or eaststar18@optonline.net

*Lack of response will require cancellation.

PLEASANTVILLE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

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(This is the second installment of a 3 part series about the great Jewish philosopher,
Maimonides)

Maimonides - A Religious Leader

By Philip Paris

After years of wandering, Maimonides and his family finally settled outside of Cairo, in the city of Fustat. Here he found a Jewish community comfortably settled, experiencing few problems with the Muslim authorities. In Fustat, the most elevated person in the Jewish community was the scholar and the center of Jewish life was the synagogue. Not only was it a place of worship, but also served as the center of communal affairs, a library, a place for travelers to stay, the center of judicial authority and an important center for study. Long services were held three times a day. The Torah scrolls were taken out and read on Monday and Thursday, and of course on the Sabbath. The singing and chanting of piyyutim extended the service considerably, but the people did not see time spent in the synagogue as a chore, but rather as a vibrant and important aspect of their communal and spiritual lives.

It was at this time, at the age of 33, that Maimonides completed his first major work. It was his lifelong ideal to bring order and system into the immense body of Jewish law known as the Mishna. He wished to make it accessible, in a clear form, to all the Jewish people. The magnitude of this task defies the imagination. Much in the Mishna was obscure, incomplete or unintelligible. It contained a bewildering variety of disputes and minority opinions, making it unapproachable for a large majority of Jewish people. Maimonides set out to correct these problems. His monumental work became useful not only to the layman or beginning student, but explained issues properly even to the scholars.

Not surprisingly, this work was not entirely appreciated by the Jewish authorities of his time. They felt Maimonides was attempting to replace the historical record of the Mishna, developed over many generations, substituting his own interpretations of the law. He often omitted references to previous studies that led to his analysis of some very complicated issues.

But worse yet, Maimonides, a scholar with a great breadth of knowledge outside of Jewish studies, came to various conclusions using foreign sources of knowledge, especially the Greek master, Aristotle. In spite of the criticism, the respect in which he was held only increased in the general community. Still a young man in his thirties, Maimonides was already functioning as the unofficial leading citizen of the Jewish community.



**ANNOUNCING "REACHING OUT/WELCOMING IN"
PCS PALOOZA WEEK COMING IN MARCH!!!**

Take a Yoga Class - Meet an Author – Share a Shabbat Dinner – Listen to acclaimed singer/songwriter at her CD Release Party - Wine & Cheese - Attend a Workshop, and more!

Members: BYOF, bring a friend, find out why we call it "Joyful Judaism"!

March 6 to 13 at PCS!!!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Keep your eyes open for future announcements via e-blasts, Facebook and [Patch.com/Pleasantville](https://www.patch.com/Pleasantville)



IS YOGA JEWISH?

“The word Yoga is derived from the Sanskrit root yuj meaning to bind, to join, attach and yoke . . . It also means union or communion. It is the true union of our will with the will of G-d.”

-- B.K.S. Iyengar

Free to PCS members, \$15 per class for non-members or \$118 for all 10 weeks.

Susan Lara Safranek began studying Yoga 15 years ago, after the birth of her second child. She is a Registered Yoga Teacher since 2003, certified by the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health. Susan loves studying, practicing, and teaching Yoga, and is particularly intrigued by exploring the similarities between the two ancient traditions of Yoga and Judaism.

For more information or to register: e-mail LaraSue22@aol.com or call (914) 666-5720

Join Susan Lara Safranek in a 10-week course to study the ancient tradition of Yoga and to explore Yoga in a Jewish context. The class will look at the 8 stages of the path towards union set forth in the Yoga Sutras, focusing on the first three: Yamas (restraints), Niyamas (observances), and Asana (postures).

As we study these ancient rules of conduct we learn more about our behavior and motives. As we study the postures we learn more about our bodies. Through understanding our behavior, our motives and our bodies, we gain insight into the mind and spirit, and a deeper understanding of each other.

Delve into this ancient practice and decide for yourself . . . is Yoga Jewish?

**Monday evenings, 7:15 p.m. – 9 p.m.
January 24 – April 4 (no class February 21)**

MINDFUL PARENTING SEMINAR:

When you are Calmer, So is your Child

This seminar, presented by Pleasantville Community Synagogue member Dr. Mark Bertin will introduce practical tools to reduce stress with mindful techniques for use in daily life.

Date: Sunday, March 6 12:30 - 2:00
Babysitting Available



Parenting is stressful no matter what we do. While some amount of stress is inevitable in life (and can even be helpful), too much stress is a problem. Through the practice of techniques that lower stress, we become less reactive and more observant of whatever is going on in our lives – issues with our kids, internal fears and habitual ways we deal with challenging situations – permitting us to make more skillful choices. Studies conducted over several decades suggest both medical and psychological benefits of mindfulness techniques.

Dr. Bertin is a board certified developmental behavioral pediatrician and frequent lecturer on topics related to child development. Dr. Bertin has a practice in Pleasantville and is the author of a new book, The Family ADHD Solution: A Scientific Approach to Maximizing Your Child's Attention While Minimizing Parents' Stress released by Palgrave Macmillan in February 2011.

PCS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

All the Committees of The Pleasantville Community Synagogue are eager for your participation and suggestions. If you'd like to get more involved in the life of the PCS community, this is the way to begin! Below are the names of the committees and their chairs. While our new Web site is in transition, new e-mail addresses for the committee chairs are in the process of being activated. Until then, you can reach any of the chairs by emailing info@shalompcs.com, or by leaving a message with Marcy Gray at 769-2672.

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Phil Paris

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Communications

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Jewish Education

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High Holidays

Jerry Neuburger

Human Resources

Lisa Lipkin

Membership Inreach

Laurie Hirsch Schulz

Membership Outreach

April Lasher-Sanders

Laurie Hirsch Schulz

Israel Action Committee

Ofri Felder

Seth Rutman

Tikkun Olam

Michael Gold

Youth Committee

Evan Kingsley



NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In the middle of February, kitah Aleph will celebrate a Shabbat program together with their parents. We will bake fresh challah, light the candles, taste the grape juice and sing Shabbat songs, as well as listen to a story and do a craft together. That's the way we learn about Shabbat. In fact, every Tuesday, the 1st and 2nd grade classes have a 'Shabbat' celebration together. Last class I asked the students what their favorite things about Shabbat are, and these are their answers:

- Ethan Spanierman: "I like the real Oneg Shabbat in the synagogue. I especially like the cookies".
Max Cohen: "I especially like the challah and the tasty Shabbat dinner."
Joshua Zweibaum: "My favorite thing is the grape juice."
Miranda Miller: "I love how the table is set for Shabbat with the candles and the wine and the challah."
Sydney Schulz: "I love it when at home, after the Shabbat candles are lit, my two cats, Milo and Paris, walk around them. We take turns with our neighbors and we celebrate Shabbat in each other's houses."
Matthea Schor: "I like the blessings and the songs and being together with other people."
Benjamin Hahn: "Shabbat candles make everything look magical."
Maya Solnick: "I love giving tzedakah before Shabbat."
Benjamin Klingner: "I like it best when my family gets together."

I'm looking forward to the Shabbat program with the parents where we can share with you all what the students have learned.

By the way, the JNF "Trees for Israel" drive is still going on. So far twelve students have participated. We still have time so I hope to get quite a few more. There is no time like the present to support Israel!

Shalom,

Michal Solomon

Pleasantville Community Synagogue Mission Statement

Pleasantville Community Synagogue is a transdenominational, inclusive community, a spiritual home deeply rooted in Torah (study), Avodah (prayer), and Gemilut Chasadim (deeds of loving-kindness). We seek to facilitate lifelong spiritual growth by engaging each member wherever that member may be on life's journey, embracing all generations. We encourage Tikkun Middot (repair of the self) and Tikkun Olam (repair of the world) through Jewish education for all ages, social action, Ahavat Yisrael (love of Israel), and a commitment to the understanding and fulfillment of mitzvot. We are a highly participatory community which relies on the commitment of time and energy from all members and which aspires to become an integral part of each member's life and their family's lives.

B'NAI MITZVAH PROJECT

Abby Furst

For my B'nai Mitzvah project, I am collecting children's books for Open Door Family Medical Centers. Open Door is a non-profit organization that provides medical care for low income people that live in Westchester. The books are used in the Reach out and Read program. It is a program that helps promote reading where people read to the kids when they are in the waiting room. Besides collecting the books, I also read to the kids. During the holiday season I helped wrap gifts for their holiday toy drive. I found reading to the kids a lot of fun and a great experience. I have collected over 700 books so far! If you would like to help me in my collection email Abby Furst c/o sgfurst@gmail.com to arrange drop off of gently used or new books for ages 0-6 years!

FEBRUARY 2011 YAHR ZEITS

Diana Gordon, Aunt of Galia Silverberg February 1
Gussie Hecht, Grandmother of Philip Wolfthal February 3
Charles Poskanzer, Father of Judy Poskanzer February 4
Belle Karmen, Grandmother of Abbe Karmen February 4
Lillian Cutler, Grandmother of Gaby Golod Greenwald February 5
Benjamin Jablow, Brother of Terry Jablow February 10
Benjamin Jablow, Son of Andrea Jablow February 10
Benjamin Jablow, Son of Robert Jablow February 10
Ervin Golod, Father of Gaby Golod Greenwald February 17
Anthony Pistone, Father of Lillian Levine February 20
Barney Etkin, Uncle of Rhea Wolfthal February 22
Pearl Sheinkopf, Mother of David Sheinkopf February 25
Morris Fuchs, Father of Audrey Lenoff February 28



To All PCS Members:

If you or another member suffer personal tragedy or loss or are otherwise in need of help, please immediately call Rabbi Mark at 769-2672, and Michael Gold at 238-9219.

“Who Is a Jew?”

Israel Action Committee to welcome Meryl Hyman, author of “Who is a Jew? Conversations, not Conclusions” on March 8

By Ofri Felder, Israel Action Committee Co-chair

On a recent trip to Costa Rica, I learned that the people of Costa Rica consider themselves “The Happiest People on Earth.” The prevailing philosophy, “Pura Vida”, calls for joy of life. In the beautiful country of Costa Rica, Pura Vida makes sense. I came back and shared this cultural tidbit with a Jewish friend who has a sardonic sense of humor. “No, Costa Ricans are not the happiest people: Jews are”, he said. And we laughed.

As people, Jews are burdened by the weight of an ancient civilization, a lengthy history of struggle to survive as a people and retain their identity amidst hostility, and more recently, the trauma of the Holocaust. We have been attributed many stereotypical qualities, happiness not being salient on the list. Perhaps it should come as no surprise, then, that the question “Who is a Jew?” sounds simple, but the answers – and they are multiple – are convoluted.

For American Jews, until recently, the question “Who Is a Jew?” was a theoretical question that could be left for open-ended discussion. The separation of church and state in America allows plural versions of Judaism to coexist: the Ultra-Orthodox, Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist, Renewal and Non-Affiliated. But the Jewish state of Israel has followed a different trajectory. In Israel, the question “Who Is a Jew?” becomes politicized. This is because of several issues: The Israeli “Law of Return”; the control by the Ultra-Orthodox of matters of personal law, including marriage, divorce, burial, adoption, and conversion; and the Israeli parliamentary system, which allows religious parties, thereby enabling a secular leader with fewer votes (i.e., Binyamin Netanyahu) to gain power by forging an alliance with the Ultra-Orthodox.

The question of “Who is a Jew?” was the thorn that prevented the newly founded state of Israel from adapting a constitution in 1948. And it continues to be a hot button issue today: the religious establishment in Israel, which is Ultra-Orthodox, is constantly pushing for legislation that would delegitimize the Jewish identity of hundreds and thousands of converts to Judaism. The Chief Rabbinate in Israel only recognizes conversions performed by its own rabbis. Its own process of conversion includes a stipulation that requires a convert to pledge to lead an Ultra-Orthodox Jewish lifestyle, thereby excluding any other form of Judaism.

What is at stake is not only the Jewish status of hundreds of thousands of converts in the United States, but also the Jewish status of hundreds of thousands of Russian Jewish immigrants to Israel, their spouse, and offspring. An Israeli-born son of a Russian non-Jewish mother and a Russian Jewish father, for example, who has served in the Israeli military, and sacrificed his life in battle, may be denied burial in a Jewish cemetery.

Most recently, the Netanyahu government has postponed a vote on the “Who Is a Jew” bill before the Knesset largely because of an outcry from the American Jewish Community. The bill is scheduled to come up again for vote in a couple of months. This is much more than a decision about conversion. The bill is seen by its critics as divisive, driving a wedge between Jewish communities in Israel and the Diaspora. It is viewed as a law based on exclusion, not inclusion, an irony given the painful lessons of Jewish history. And it can further erode the democratic foundation of the state of Israel by strengthening the hold of the Ultra-Orthodox. This fledgling democracy, which turns 63 in May, is threatened not only by the need to maintain its security but also by Jewish religious extremism.

For American Jews, steeped in the notion of Judaism as a liberal progressive force in American politics, the idea of Judaism as potentially oppressive is hard to comprehend. But the Conversion Law before the Israeli Knesset is forcing Jews in the Diaspora to face the reality that Judaism can have many faces, some of which conflict with liberal values. It is a further irony that the state of Israel, founded by Jewish youth who turned away from what they viewed as narrow minded religious oppression in the Jewish shtetels of Eastern Europe, is reconstituting that very same religious intolerance within Israel today.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

WHO IS A JEW?", CONTINUED

Enter Meryl Hyman, a journalist who is a resident of Somers. In 1996, she set out to explore the question of "Who Is a Jew." For Meryl, the question had personal urgency. The daughter of a Christian mother and a Jewish father, Meryl was raised as a Jew and identifies herself as Jewish. Yet, according to the Jewish halachic law, which is at the basis of the Conversion Law up for vote in the Israel Knesset, Jewish identity is matrilineal. This means that Meryl is not a Jew.

At the conclusion of her formal Jewish education when she was a teenager, Meryl's Rabbi suggested to her that she formally convert, to avoid "any questions" in the future. Meryl felt this was similar to telling her she must convert to being a girl in order to prevent "questions" in the future. Meryl's Judaism is deeply felt, based on birth, upbringing, and choice. Among other Jewish experiences, she was chosen as an "Eisendrath International Exchange Student" as a teenager and spent some time living at the home of Rabbi Jacob Soetendorp and his family in Amsterdam, where Otto Frank, the father of Anne Frank, was a frequent visitor.

Over the course of several months in 1996, Meryl interviewed many religious Jewish leaders in Israel as well as the United States and England about the question of Jewish Identity. The results of her conversations, many brilliant, a few less illuminating, are included in her book, *Who Is a Jew? Conversations, Not Conclusions*. The convoluted religious, political, historical, sociological, and cultural aspects of this deceptively simple question are explored. Meryl's own voice, while present in the book, precludes judgment. If anything, she stresses the integrity of all her interviewees, who represent the entire spectrum of Jewish life, from the Ultra-Orthodox to the secular.

Meryl never gets a definitive answer to her question, "Who Is a Jew?" Nor does she believe that passage of the conversion bill by the Knesset will put this issue to rest. But it could have a long lasting effect on religious pluralism in Israel. To what extent are American Jews, who enjoy religious pluralism in the United States, committed to religious pluralism in Israel? Can the Conservative and Reform movements, who have been strengthening their stronghold in Israel, continue to do so? Will Israeli Jews have alternatives to Ultra-Orthodoxy?

As Meryl Hyman finds out in her conversations, the personal is political. As co-Chairman of the Israeli Action Committee, I am excited that she will be sharing her familiarity with this topic and her insights with us. We urge our membership, and all who are interested in the topic, to join us for this important discussion.

Ofri Felder is a third generation Israeli born in Kibbutz Gvat. She served in the Israeli military and is a graduate of Tel-Aviv University. She has been living in the United States for the past thirty years and is currently a high school counselor. Ofri welcomes your questions and comments at ofelder@optonline.net.

Meryl Hyman's book, [Who Is a Jew: Conversations, Not Conclusions](#), is available at the PCS library.



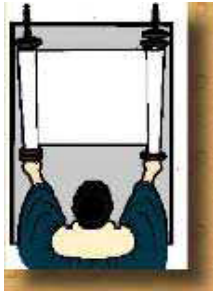
ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The PCS Newsletter is published monthly, online, from September through June. Articles and photos should be submitted by the 15th of the month. They can be e-mailed to Judith Chinitz, Editor, at judyhope@optonline.net or dropped off at the newsletter box in the Synagogue office.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FEBRUARY

BAT MITZVAH



2/5 Congratulations to Abby Furst,
daughter of Sue and Ken, sister of
Matthew and Ethan

CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Pleasantville Community Synagogue by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions.

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WOLFTHAL, AND HER MOTHER, SYD GITELSON

KIDDUSH FUND

AUDREY AND JERRY LENOFF IN HONOR OF THEIR 61ST
ANNIVERSARY

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

General Fund

Finances any need of the synagogue considered necessary by the Board of Trustees. All unspecified gifts are credited to the General Fund.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Supports various individuals, organizations and/or programs at the discretion of the Rabbi.

Building Fund

To preserve the beauty and functionality of our physical plant, and to build reserves for future expansion.

Hebrew School Emergency Scholarship Fund

Provides scholarships to children who would like to attend our Hebrew School and may not currently have the financial resources to do so.

Kiddush Fund

Your donation provides lunch after services on Shabbat morning: salads, bagels and pastry.

SPECIAL FUND: ED SPERLING

Pleasantville Community Synagogue has begun to collect funds for Ed. Please keep Ed in your prayers. His Hebrew name is Asher David ben Miriam.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PLEASANTVILLE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE

Send acknowledgement to: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

In honor/
memory of: _____

Fund: _____

Amount: _____

Please send me an acknowledgement of this gift.

Yes

No

PLEASE NOTE: To help our bookkeeper, please issue separate checks for dues or other special events. All donations should be made payable to Pleasantville Community Synagogue (please indicate which fund in the memo section of your check).

MISS CHOCOLATE PRESENTS PASSOVER 2011

We will be conducting our annual PASSOVER CANDY SALE during the month of February. We will be selling Kosher for Passover candy and confections along with some useful kitchen items. Every edible item will have a certification of Passover Kosher Supervision. Our Personal consideration will be given to all orders, however large or small. Let us take care of your Passover holiday needs. If you are interested in purchasing Passover candy, macaroons, etc., please fill out the order form below and mail it back with the correct payment. Your check must accompany your order. Please make check payable to our organization. Thank You!

ITEM #	PASSOVER ITEM DESCRIPTION	QTY.	PRICE	TOTAL
2386	CHOCOLATE MINT DIAMONDS (P)		\$8.50	
2508	CASHEW BUTTER CRUNCH (D)		\$9.00	
2501	COCONUT MACAROONS (P)		\$8.00	
2531	LOLLYCONES (D)		\$5.50	
2529	FRUIT SLICES (P)		\$14.00	
2542	ALMOND CARAMEL CLUSTERS (D)		\$11.00	
2535	DARK CHOCOLATE MATZO (P)		\$13.75	
2553	CHOCOLATE CARAMEL DAISIES (D)		\$10.00	
2541	SEDER MINTS (P)		\$10.50	
2562	MILK CHOCOLATE MATZO (D)		\$13.75	
2560	ALMOND BARK (P)		\$10.50	
2590	ALMOND KISSES (D)		\$15.50	
2564	CHOCOLATE COV. MACAROONS (P)		\$11.50	
2593	MILK & DARK CHOCO. ASS'T. (D)		\$15.50	
2575	CHOCOLATE MACAROONS (P)		\$8.00	
3577	ALMOND BUTTER CRUNCH (D)		\$14.00	
2591	RASPBERRY CHOCO. JELLIES (P)		\$11.50	
151	ALUMINUM SPORTS BOTTLE		\$10.00	
2642	CHOCO. COV. MATZAH CRACKERS (P)		\$13.75	
291	PURSE ORGANIZER		\$7.50	
3000	CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL POPS (P)		\$5.50	
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GREAT VALUE!!!! BUY 4 AND SAVE!!!!				
9500	CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL POPS (P) 4 PACK		\$18.00	
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PCS CONTACT: Jen Yamuder - jjamuder@optonline.net

Jewish Genealogy Workshop
How to find family in Israel (and around the world)
Tuesday, February 8 at 7:30 pm



The PCS Israel Action Committee will be hosting a very special interactive workshop with Karen Franklin, past president of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies and currently co-chair of the Board of Governors of JewishGen. Through case studies and using the latest online databases, Karen will provide tips on tracing our ancestors and contacting our families. Participants will have the opportunity to work online with Karen to start their research during the session.

***Coffee/tea and dessert will be served – snow date Tuesday 2/15 at 7:30
Contact Seth Rutman at seth.rutman@ubs.com with questions or to RSVP.**

Pleasantville Community Synagogue – 219 Bedford Rd. Pleasantville, NY

February 2011 - PCS Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>30</p> <p>Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11am</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am Ask the Rabbi 4pm 2nd Grade</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Jew Tube 4:45pm-6pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Friday Night Service 7:15pm with PCS House Band Rosh Chodesh Adar I 4:57pm-5:15pm - Candle lighting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Rosh Chodesh Adar I Parashat Terumah Bat Mitzvah - Abby Furst 6:28pm-6:29pm - Havdalah (72 min)</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Introduction to Judaism at PCS 11am</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am Israel Action Committee hosts special event with genealogist Karen Franklin, 7:30pm. Snow date Feb. 15.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Hebrew High School 4:15pm-6pm Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Friday Night Service 7:15pm with PCS House Band 5:06pm-5:24pm - Candle lighting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Morning Meditation 9 am Family Education 10 am Vav Shabbat/Hay Havdallah Parashat Tetzaveh 6:37pm-6:38pm - Havdalah (72 min)</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Pre- and Post-Adoptive Parent Group at PCS - 7pm-8:30pm. Share the joys and challenges of parenting through adoption. For more information or to register call Marci Schwartz-Ruff at 914-678-2224</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Social Action Committee Meeting 7:30pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Women's Rosh Chodesh Adar Program at PCS 7pm. Purim Movie Night: One Night with the King. Refreshments will be served.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Friday Night Service 7:15pm Purim Katan 5:14pm-5:32pm - Candle lighting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Ki Tisa 6:45pm-6:46pm - Havdalah (72 min)</p>
<p>20</p> <p>NO HEBREW SCHOOL</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am NO HEBREW SCHOOL</p>	<p>23</p> <p>NO HEBREW SCHOOL</p>	<p>24</p> <p>NO HEBREW SCHOOL</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Friday Night Service 7:15pm 5:23pm-5:41pm - Candle lighting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Vayakhel 6:54pm-6:55pm - Havdalah (72 min)</p>
<p>27</p> <p>NO HEBREW SCHOOL</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Tuesday Morning Minyan 7am</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Jew Tube 4:45pm-6pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Friday Night Service 7:15pm Shabbat Across America 5:31pm-5:49pm - Candle lighting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Shabbat Service 9am Torah Study 12:15pm Shabbat Shekalim Parashat Pekudei 7:02pm-7:03pm - Havdalah (72 min)</p>

TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE

TORAH READINGS Between Jan.1 and Oct.1, 2011

Note	Date	Parsha	Book	Verses	TOPIC	QUOTES	HAFTORAH
	Jan. 1	Vaera	Ex.	6:2-7:7	The Call of Moses	I have made you Master over Pharaoh. (7:1)	Ez. 28:25 - 29:21
	8	Bo	Ex.	10:1-11:3	Locust, Darkness	I shall never see your face again. (10:29)	Jer. 46:13 - 46:28
	15	Beshalach	Ex.	13:17-15:26	The Departure, The Song	Better to serve Egypt than to die in the Wilderness. (14:12) Who is like You, Adonay? (Mi kamocho?) (15:11)	Judges 4:4 - 5:31
	22	Yitro	Ex.	18:1-18:27	The Appointment of Judges	...teach them the statutes...show them the way...(18:20)	Is. 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 9:6
	29	Mishpatim	Ex.	21:1-22:3	Laws concerning slaves, homicide, wounds, blows	An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth... (21:24)	Jer. 34:8 - 34:22;
a.	Feb. 5	Teruma	Ex.	25:1-25:40	The Sanctuary, The Ark	Build Me a Sanctuary and I shall dwell among them. (25:8)	Isaiah 66:1 - 66:24
	12	Tetzaveh	Ex.	27:20-28:30	The oil and the vestments	Kindle the lamp continually. (27:20)	Ezekiel 43:10 - 43:27
	19	Ki Tisa	Ex.	30:11-31:17	The census, The Sabbath	Observe the Sabbath through all generations. (31:16)	I Kings 18:1 - 18:39
	26	Vayakhel	Ex.	35:1-37:16	Construction of the Tabernacle	Bezalel made the Ark of acacia wood. (37:1)	I Kings 7:40 - 7:50
	Mar. 5	Pekudei	Ex.	38:21-39:21	The accounts of the Tabernacle	A bekah a head, a half a shekel. (38:26)	II Kings 12:1 - 12:17
	12	Vayikra	Lev.	1:1-2:16	Offerings	A sweet savour unto Hashem. (1:9)	Isaiah 43:21 - 44:23
b.	19	Tzav	Lev.	6:1-7:10	Offerings of the Kohens	-----	I Samuel 15:2 - 15:34
c	26	Shmini	Lev.	9:1-10:11	The death of Aron's two sons	Take no wine or strong drink. (10:9)	Ezekiel 36:16 - 36:38
	Apr. 2	Tazria	Lev.	12:1-13:39	Laws of Human Contamination	-----	Ezekiel 45:16 - 46:18
d	9	Metzora	Lev.	14:1-14:32	Purification	-----	II Kings 7:3 - 7:20
e	16	Achrei Mot	Lev.	16:1-17:7	Yom Kippur	And the goat shall be set free in the wilderness. (16:22)	Malachi 3:4 - 3:24
P	23	Ki Tisa	Ex.	33:12-34:26	The Encounter on Mt. Sinai	I shall show favor when I choose to show favor and mercy when I choose to show mercy. (33:19)	Ezekiel 37:1-37:14

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE, CONT.

TORAH READINGS Between Jan.1 and Oct.1, 2011

Note	Date	Parsha	Book	Verses	TOPIC	QUOTES	HAFTORAH
f	30	Kedoshim	Lev.	19:1-19:37	The human road to holiness	Do not favor the poor or honor the great. (19:15)	Amos 9:7 - 9:15
	May 7	Emor	Lev.	21:1-22:16	Contamination of the Kohens	-----	Ezekiel 44:15 - 44:31
	14	Behar	Lev.	25:1-25:38	The Sabbatical / Jubilee Year	Proclaim freedom throughout the land. (25:10)	Jeremiah 32:6 - 32:27
	21	Bechukotai	Lev.	26:3-27:15	Rewards and Punishments	I have broken your yoke and led you erect. (26:13)	Jer. 16:19 - 17:14
	28	Bamidbar	Num.	1:1-1:54	Census	Take a census...by number of the names. (1:2)	Hosea 2:1 - 2:22
	June 4	Nasso	Num.	4:21-5:10	Duties of the Levites. Restitution	Pay full value...and add to it its fifth. (5:7)	Judges 13:2 - 13:25
	11	Beha'alotcha	Num.	8:1-9:14	The Levites. The Passover	There shall be one law for stranger and native alike. (9:14)	Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7
	18	Sh'lach	Num.	13:1-14:7	The spies	It flows with milk and honey.(13:27) ...we felt like grasshoppers. (13:33)	Joshua 2:1 - 2:24
	25	Korach	Num.	16:1-17:15	Rebellion in the desert	...the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them. (16:32)	I Sam. 11:14 - 12:22
	July 2	Chukat	Num.	19:1-20:13	The red cow The striking of the rock	...you will not bring this people to the Land... (20:12)	Isaiah 66:1 - 66:24
	9	Balak	Num.	22:2-22:38	The parable of the she-donkey	Am I not your ass you have ridden all your life? (22:30)	Micah 5:6 - 6:8
	16	Pinchas	Num.	25:10-26:51	Census	-----	I Kings 18:46 - 19:21
	23	Matot	Num.	30:2-31:54	Vows. The taking of Midian	A thousand from a tribe, a thousand from a tribe. (31:4)	Jeremiah 1:1 - 2:3
	30	Masei	Num.	33:1-33:49	Summary of the Wanderings	-----	Jeremiah 2:4 - 28; 3:4
	Aug. 6	Devarim	Deu.	1:1-2:1	Moses begins his memoir	I cannot carry you alone. (1:9)	Isaiah 1:1 - 1:27
	13	Vaetchanan	Deu.	3:23-5:18	The Ten Commandments	Add nothing and take nothing away. (4:2)	Isaiah 40:1 - 40:26
	20	Eikev	Deu.	7:12-9:3	Hashem is the Provider	...man does not live by bread alone... (8:3)	Isaiah 49:14 - 51:3

TORAH READINGS Between Jan.1 and Oct.1, 2011

Note	Date	Parsha	Book	Verses	TOPIC	QUOTES	HAFTORAH
	27	Re'eh	Deu.	11:26-12:28	Laws for after the crossing	...you shall obliterate their names... (12:3)	Isaiah 54:11 - 55:5
	Sept. 3	Shovtim	Deu.	16:18-18:5	Judges. The king of Israel	He shall not have too many horses (17:16), ...wives...silver and gold (17:17)	Isaiah 51:12 - 52:12
	10	Ki Teitzei	Deu.	21:10-23:7	Of marriages, sons, property.	You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together. (22:10)	Isaiah 54:1 - 54:10
	17	Ki Tavo	Deu.	26:1-27:10	The new commitment	Of whole stones shall you build the altar. (27:6)	Isaiah 60:1 - 60:22
	24	Nitzavim	Deu.	29:9-30:14	The renewal of the Covenant	What is secret is Hashem's, what is known is ours.(29:28)	Isaiah 61:10 - 63:9
	Oct. 1	Hazinu	Deu.	32:1-32:52	The Song of Moses	I shall render vengence upon My enemies and upon those who hate Me I shall bring retribution (32:41)	Hosea 14:2-10 Micah 7:18-20 Joel 2:15-27
Notes: P Passover. Bnei Mitzvahs: a.Abbe Furst b.Robert Levine c. The Dosters d.Benjamin Yampolsky e.Sophie Epstein f.Ilana Cohen							



The all new free 2011-2012 Directory of the Westchester Jewish Community is now available through Your Synagogue/Organization or through the Westchester Jewish Council office. Request your copy today.

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JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER

JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER ANNOUNCES DATES FOR WESTCHESTER JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2011

The Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville has announced the dates for the annual Westchester Jewish Film Festival and will once again hold a Community Night as part of the Festival programming. The festival will run from March 24 – April 14, 2011 and is sponsored by the American Jewish Committee, Westchester. Films, speaker events, and receptions are in the planning stage and the complete schedule of events will be announced toward the end of the year. Community Night is a Sunday program which includes a film, speaker and a reception. Many synagogues use this night as a fundraiser. For questions, additional information and to register for group sales, please contact Abby Popper at apopper@burnsfilmcenter.org or at 914.773.7663 ext.424.

Contact: Abby Popper (apopper@burnsfilmcenter.org)
914.773.7663, ext. 424

WJCS Jewish Spiritual Healing Center **Winter/Spring Programs**

Spiritual Journeying Groups

Meditation and Middot

5 Mondays, Feb. 7 (introductory session for newcomers from 7:30-8:30), Feb. 28, March 21, May 2, June 6 – 6:30-8:30 PM

A Chants Encounter

4 Mondays, February 14, March 7, April 4, May 9 – 6:30-8:00 PM

A Legacy of Values: Writing Your Ethical Will

3 Mondays, February 28, March 14, April 11 – 12-1:30 PM

Spiritual Support Groups

Out of the Depths: Reflections on Infertility and Adoption

4 Wednesdays, February 2, 16, March 2, March 16 –6:30- 8:00 PM

Refuah/Healing: For those Suffering with a Chronic or Terminal Illness

4 Mondays, Feb. 28, March 21, May 2, June 6, 3-4:30 PM

Healing Service

Counting the Omer, Counting Our Blessings

Wednesday, May 18, 7:00 PM at Pleasantville Community Synagogue

Kumi Ori: Contemplative Sundays

Kumi Ori: Sunday Morning Awakenings is a new and exciting addition to the Healing Center. Through yoga, Jewish meditation and contemplative study, we will deepen our personal experience of Judaism and “awaken” to the rich offerings and beauty of the Jewish spiritual path. We will be mindful of the Jewish calendar, honoring the rhythms and symbolic meaning of Purim, Passover, the Omer period, and Shavuot. Experiential workshops will be held on Sunday mornings February 6, March 6, April 10, May 15, and June 5 from 10:00 AM - Noon.

Awakening Through Yoga and Meditation

Sunday, February 6

For more information or to register for any of our WJCS Healing Center programs, contact:

Rabbi Pamela Wax
WJCS Spiritual Care Coordinator
Westchester Jewish Community Services
845 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603

914-761-0600 x149
pwax@wjcs.com

Programming made possible with support from

UJA Federation of NY



The 35th Annual Westchester Jewish Council Gala
Saturday, February 12, 7:15 PM, honoring
Stuart Kolbert, Susan Baer, and Sheila Friedland
Featuring the comedy of Elon Gold and the music of SR2
Congregation Kol Ami, 252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY

Look for our free 2011-2012 Directory; Available Through Your
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info@wjcouncil.org visit us at www.wjcouncil.org
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SAVE THE DATE:

Tuesday, February 8: Jewish Genealogy
Saturday, February 12: Shabbat Meditation
Saturday, February 12: Family Education Shabbat
Friday, March 4: Shabbat Across America
Sunday, March 6: Dr. Mark Bertin, author of "The Family ADHD Solution"
March 6 - March 13: PCS Palooza - Events All Week!

