

VOLUME XIX NUMBER 7 WWW.SHALOMPCS.COM MARCH 2014

THE RABBI'S COLUMN: THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME.

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This month marks my return to PCS from sabbatical, and I could not be happier to be back. The sabbatical was everything I hoped it would be. I got away; attended workshops and retreats on topics of interest (mostly on Jewish mysticism and meditation); spent Shabbat at a different synagogue each week, representing Jewish communities from all over the world - Greece, Syria, Bialystok, Poland, Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany, Spain and Portugal - and worked on my writing project. But I missed the PCS community – there's no place like home!

I want to thank all of you for extending me this deeply appreciated time. In particular I want to extend my deep thanks to our synagogue administrator Marcy Gray, who is as tireless, forwardthinking, competent, and dedicated a manager of systems and helper of people as I have ever been blessed to meet. To PCS synagogue President Jerry Neuburger, who cares about every detail, and every person, and lovingly gives more of himself to this shul than anyone – your rabbi included – will, or will ever be able to imagine. To PCS's dedicated officers and directors, who continued the important work of the synagogue, planning and implementing programs, making sure everything continued to run smoothly.

To our hard-working committee chairs and members who provided, and even expanded, PCS's educational and community-building events over these past months. To our School Principal, Galit Sperling, who has attracted so much positive attention since joining us this past fall, for all of the excitement and joy she has brought with her, and all of the productive personal time she has spent with individual students, their parents, the teachers, and the community's lay leadership. To the members of the PCS Shabbat Morning Meditation Circle, for sharing the leadership over these past months, and for continuing to provide an oasis of calm. comfort, and connection for anyone who feels moved to drop in. And last, but emphatically not least, to Cantor Isabel Kopstein, for leading the PCS services and for handling pastoral duties in my absence. Such wonderful things have I heard! Thank you so very much!

And now: So many wonderful things happening this month! The baby-naming of new members; Family Education Shabbat; Family Purim event; our week-long PCS Palooza Open House (tell your friends); and our PCS Adult Purim Ball on Saturday night March 22!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We begin March by welcoming back our own Rabbi Mark from his sabbatical in this his 17th year.

We wish to thank Cantor Isabel Kopstein for her leadership, knowledge, teachings and diverse talents during Rabbi Mark's absence in leading services and more.

Additionally, here's a reminder with respect to three upcoming events and celebrations for us at PCS.

The love, care, devotion, dedication and loyalty of our particular very special community that is PCS, is demonstrated so well in three very special events. These are PCS' Palooza Week from March 16-23, the Purim Spiel on March 22, as well as an upcoming PCS Shabbaton on April 11-12.

PCS Palooza Week is a week's

compilation of events, ranging from PCS' first book fair, to author readings, film screenings, lectures, a Friday night Shabbat dinner, etc., with a diverse variety of aggregate events and activities geared for the entire family. Somewhere in the week's schedule and plans there is literally something for everyone. Take a look and pick an activity.

While the aforementioned qualities are the backdrop as well for the Purim Spiel, this PCS centerpiece event has become our annual signature evening with respect to a night of food, comedy, a show and dancing. Thanks to so many of our own dedicated people who comprise the Purim Spiel Committee, this event gets bigger, better, more elaborate, enjoyable and elegant every single year.

The April 11-12 PCS Shabbaton

incorporates Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services, with a Family Education Shabbat, study and discussion groups leading up to Passover, led by Rabbi Mark and a weekend guest appearance by High Holidays Cantor Abbe Lyons.

If you've attended any of these three events in the past you know exactly what I'm describing and how special each of them is. If you haven't experienced them, I would encourage you to attend for a most enjoyable night out with fellow members of the community.

- Jerry Neuburger



Thank You, Cantor Isabel Kopstein

PCS had the fortune of having Cantor Isabel lead services while Rabbi Mark was on sabbatical. She was outstanding and here are the president's words to express our gratitude:

"We want to thank you for your leadership, your knowledge and preparation, for your understanding of the community, for your being an integral part of the community, for your study and readiness with respect to a discussion of each week's parsha, for your caring and warmth, for your diverse talents, and most of all - for you just being you.

Beyond your life and career as a teacher, you have truly found your calling when you became a cantor, and then became part of synagogue leadership. Thank you so much for all of what you continually bring to the PCS community. We love you for all of it and look forward to your future teachings, contributions and leadership in our community." - Jerry Neuburger

This is not good-bye, only see you soon!





HEBREW SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Galit Sperling, Hebrew School Principal

February went by in a flash in the PCS Hebrew School. The 1st, 2nd and 4th graders enjoyed the mitzvah of making fresh challah with the help of a family member. In March, our 3rd, 5th and 6th graders will get to join in the fun! This is a wonderful tradition at the Hebrew School, a time when veteran bakers and novices alike, of all ages, come together to knead dough and spend time together in anticipation of Shabbat.

The 7th grade B'nei Mitzvah class, led by teacher Jamie Cotel, culminated a unit on Israel by taking on the roles of the Israelis, Palestinians, and Americans and working together in negotiation to create a peace treaty all on their own.

We are now preparing for the joyous Purim holiday on March 16, and after that, Pesach (Passover) will be only a few weeks away! Please mark the following upcoming March dates:

Sunday, March 2: Challah Making with Kitah Gimmel (3rd grade) at 10:15am, Challah Making with Kitah Hey (5th grade) at 12:30pm

Friday evening, March 7: Kitah Alef/Bet (1st/2nd grade) Shabbaton

Sunday, March 9: Challah Making with Kitah Vav (6th grade) at 12:30pm

Thursday, March 13: Ask the Rabbi with Kitah Hey (5th grade)

Saturday evening, March 15: Purim Megillah Reading and Family Celebration at 6 pm

Sunday, March 16: Hebrew School Purim Celebration

Friday evening, March 21: Kitah Gimmel (3rd grade) Shabbaton service

Sunday, March 23: Kitah Daled (4th grade) Heritage Day event at 11:45am

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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.

HEBREW SCHOOL CONTINUED



(Kitah Alef/Bet (1st/2nd graders)



Oliver has help from his mother measuring ingredients



Kitah Daled (4th grade)



4th grader Jake gets his hands sticky in the challah batter

Pleasantville Community Synagogue Joyful Judaism

PCS invites everyone to:



the 4th annual

PCS Palooza Week! March 16-23,2014

Includes:

Sunday, March 16: Hebrew School in action - Celebrate Purim and meet Rabbi Mark Sameth and Principal Galit Sperling

Monday, March 17: Yoga, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, March 18: **Book Fair** with author reading at 7:30 pm

Wednesday, March 19: **Book Fair** with author reading at 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 20: Special screening of "Life in Stills," 7:45 pm

Friday, March 21: Friday night dinner and service led by Hebrew school 3rd graders

Saturday, March 22, 9 am- noon: **Jewish** meditation, led by Rabbi Mark. Then, PCS's special warm and engaging Shabbat services followed by a festive **Oneg Shabbat**.

Sunday, March 23: Hebrew School in action

And much more!

For more details and information, visit www.shalompcs.com, e-mail mgray@shalompcs.com or call 769-2672.

Come find out what "Joyful Judaism" is all about!

Pleasantville Community Synagogue 219 Bedford Road, Pleasantville, NY 10570

ASK THE RABBI:

On Rabbis, Shabbat and Hebrew

On February 2, Rabbi Mark dropped in on our First and Second Grade Class (Kitah Alef and Bet) for a session of "Ask the Rabbi." The kids asked some great questions, and everyone had a wonderful time.

Here are some excerpts from that morning's discussion:

JOSEPH REINHARZ: How long does it take to become a rabbi?

RABBI MARK: It takes a long time. First there's elementary school, and then middle school, and then high school, and then college, and then another five years in a school for rabbis called a "seminary."

LENA SEALEY-NICOTRA: How did you learn to be a rabbi?

RABBI MARK: Well, I would say in two ways. One was in the seminary where I took a lot of classes on how to be a rabbi. And the other way was that I watched my own rabbi. I watched what he did, and how he did what he did.

OLIVER KREEGER: What influenced you to become a rabbi?

RABBI MARK: I think again there were two influences. First I was influenced by my own rabbi, Rabbi Marshall Meyer of blessed memory. And then I was also influenced by reading books about Torah, God, and the Jewish people. Both were important influences.

LILA BERKOWITZ: Why did you want to be a rabbi?

RABBI MARK: I wanted to be a rabbi because I wanted to help people, to learn and to teach.

AIDEN McGINLEY: What do you do because you're a rabbi?

RABBI MARK: Well, one thing is that I come to your class and do "Ask the Rabbi" which I love to do! I also teach the big kids, the seventh graders, and the high school students, and I work with all the Bar and Bat Mitzvah students. I also teach classes for grownups. And I lead the services, too. I help people with their happy times, like a baby-naming; and also at sad times: I visit people in the hospital; and when someone has passed away I visit the family in their home, and conduct the funeral service. For a rabbi, every day is different.

AVA BERKOWITZ: What's the most religious holiday?

RABBI MARK: I think this will be a surprise to you. Most people would say maybe Rosh Hashanna, or Yom Kippur.

AVA: I would say Passover.

RABBI MARK: That's a great guess, too! But I would say the most religious Jewish holiday, the most important one, is Shabbat. Even though it comes every week, that's the big holiday! And you're going to learn a little bit about Shabbat this morning with Morah Jaime, aren't you? Great!

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ASK THE RABBI, CONTINUED

LILLY BROWN: What is your favorite holiday and why?

RABBI MARK: Well, my personal favorite holiday also happens to be Shabbat. Why? Well, every Friday night we have a special Shabbat dinner at home, and we have challah, and we sing songs – it's great! And then there's a service Friday night, and another one in the morning where we read from the Torah, and talk about the stories and discuss what they can teach us to be better people. From sundown Friday to sundown Saturday we just sing, pray, eat, spend time with our friends and family – it is totally my favorite holiday, and my favorite day of the week!

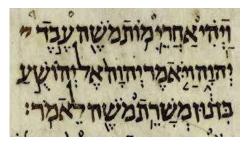
NOLAN RHODES: How is the Star of David made?

RABBI MARK: That's so great that you asked me that! I've actually been studying about that now, and been doing some writing about it. The Jewish Star, or Star of David, called "Magen David" in Hebrew, is made of two triangles. Here, I'll draw them on the board for you. This first triangle [draws star with point down] is the ancient symbol for "woman." And this second triangle [draws star with point up] is an ancient symbol for "man." When we put them together [draws Star of David] we have the "Magen David," or Star of David. In Judaism, of course, we don't believe that God is a man or a woman. God does not have a body like you or me. God is spirit, pure light. But in Judaism, we sometimes call God "King and Queen." It means that God is the God of all girls and women, and of all boys and men. God is everything all together. Or as we say in the "Shema": God is One.

MORAH JAIME: I have a question. Why is Hebrew written from right to left, where in English it is written from left to right?

RABBI MARK: I wish I knew. But I think maybe it is because the first person to write Hebrew was left-handed. In the ancient world, languages were written in either direction. In fact, some languages were written from the top down. And there were even some languages that would start off in one direction, and then the next line would be in the other direction, and then it would reverse again! (That was called "like the bull" writing, because the writer would turn at the end of a row, like a bull turning when it was plowing a field.) I'm guessing the first person to write Hebrew was left-handed, because writing Hebrew with your right hand – if you use an old fountain pen or (even older) a feather - is hard! It's easy to mess up the letters. They can get smudged by your hand if you're not careful. So that's my guess, but it's one of those things we don't know for sure.

Thank you all for your wonderful questions today!







PCS Progressive Dinner 2014

This year's Progressive Dinner was another success. Held on February 1 and superbly organized by the new chair, Marlo Klein, it was a night of conviviality, good food, live music and time well spent with old friends and new.

We started at the home of Anne Tetenman and Gary Greenwald's where we had appetizers; then we proceeded to break into small groups to go to different homes for dinner. After dinner we all gathered at the home of Marc and Gilda Borenstein for dessert, wine, and live music by Mike Mayers, Richard Martinez and Marc Borenstein.

Thank you to the host families for the delicious food and the warm atmosphere they all provided and thank you above all to Marlo for an outstanding debut.







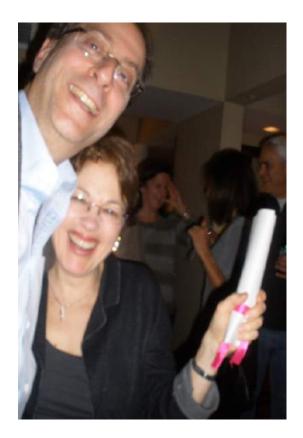
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PCS Progressive Dinner, Continued











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PCS Progressive Dinner, Continued











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B'NEI MITZVAH PROJECT



HELP CHILDREN IN THE PHILIPPINES





For my mitzvah project I am collecting school supplies to help children in the Philippines continue their education after Typhoon Haiyan. These supplies include pens, pencils, folders, markers, paper, etc. They will get donated to the Afya Foundation and then sent to the Philippines.

The Afya Foundation is devoted to helping those in need around the world. While it focuses on medical supplies, it also collects other things in need such as school supplies. Afya has helped people in Haiti, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Malawi, Rwanda, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Nigeria, Brazil and Pakistan, and with your help, it can continue to aid those in the Philippines too! You can learn more about Afya at <u>afyafoundation.org</u>.

Please leave your donations in the marked box at the synagogue.

Thank you,

Yakira Sameth

Israel Documentary Film Series started on February 19

The PCS Israel Action and Adult Education committees planned a series of screenings to learn about Israel's history, culture, and politics through an informal viewing of five documentary films. The first film was *Amos Oz, The Nature of Dreams* (2009) about the birth and coming of age of Amos Oz, one of Israel's greatest writers.

The screening was well attended and the discussion following the film, moderated by member David Felder, an Israeli native, was thought provoking and enlightening.

We look forward to the next screening during Palooza Week on Thursday, March 20, of the award-winning "Life In Stills."





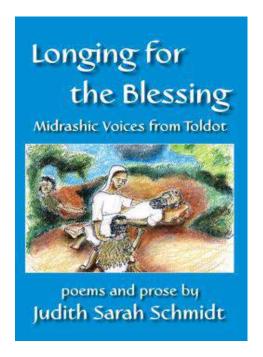


Thanks again to Cris Martinez for providing us with these photos!

"Longing for the Blessing ... "

PCS is proud to announce the recent publication of "Longing for the Blessing: Midrashic Voices from Toldot" by PCS member, author, poet and speaker, **Judith Schmidt**.

In honor of Ed Sperling, Judith has made the book available for purchase at PCS for \$18.00, with all proceeds going to the Ed Sperling Fund. If interested, please contact Marcy Gray at PCS, mgray@shalompcs.com, 769-2672, or fill out and send in the form below.



"To enter Judith Sarah Schmidt's stunningly profound and beautiful *Longing for the Blessing*, her reflections on the section of the Torah called Toldot, is to become intimate with words of Torah, dream images, the collected insights of over a thousand years of religious commentary, contemporary psychology and literature and personal memories. Through these words and images you enter into the soul of Isaac, Rebecca, Jacob and Esau, as well as of her great-grandfather Judah, and of Judith herself. Through these images you deeply understand and love them, their faith, their prayers, their struggles and triumphs. In their light, you see your own."

— Rabbi Rachel Cowan, co-founder of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality

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RSVP now for

Purim Shpiel Gala Celebration!

Saturday night, March 22

A new Purim Shpiel by Jeff Turkel performed by the PCS Players

An Evening of Great Fun & Fundraising with a Live & Silent Auction

Pleasantville Country Club

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To RSVP or for more information call Marcy Gray at PCS at 769-2672 or e-mail <u>mgray@shalompcs.com</u>.



## Israel Documentary Film Series at PCS\*

The PCS Israel Action and Adult Education committees invite you to learn about Israel's history, culture, and politics through an informal viewing of five fascinating and thought-provoking documentary films:

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:30 pm: Amos Oz, The Nature of Dreams (2009)

Thursday, March 20, 7:45 pm: Life in Stills (2011)

Wednesday, April 23, 7:30 pm: Orchestra of Exiles (2012)

Thursday, May 1, 7:45 pm: Inventing our Lives, the Kibbutz Experiment (2011)

Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 pm: The Gatekeepers (2012)

\*See next page for more details of each film.

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For more information, please e-mail Israel Action Committee co-chair Ofri Felder at <u>ofelder@optonline.net</u> or call the PCS office at 769-2672.

All are welcome to this free series and refreshments will be served.

Advanced registration is recommended.

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## **Israel Documentary Film Series at PCS**

The PCS Israel Action and Adult Education committees invite you to learn about Israel's history, culture, and politics through an informal viewing of five fascinating and thought-provoking documentary films:

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:30 pm: Amos Oz, *The Nature of Dreams* (2009) The birth and coming of age of Amos Oz, one of Israel's greatest writers, parallels those of his country. "This is a journey in the footsteps of Amos Oz, his literary writing and political doctrine. The journey takes us through his memoir, 'A Tale of Love and Darkness,' through his meetings with readers in Israel and all over the world; his notions about the long and complex relationship between Europe and Jews; and follows him over a period of two years in his efforts to promote the two-state solution for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict." Discussion following the film moderated by PCS member David Felder.

Thursday, March 20, 7:45 pm: Life in Stills (2011) The work of photographer Rudi Weissenstein, the "official" photographer in 1948 for the Declaration of the State of Israel, is the backdrop for this tender "love story" between Rudi's 96-year-old widow and their grandson, Ben. When the photo shop she has managed for decades in Tel Aviv is scheduled for demolition, Miriam Weissenstein joins her grandson on a journey to save the shop and Rudi's life work. This uplifting story, both touching and humorous, is bound to please.

Wednesday, April 23, 7:30 pm: Orchestra of Exiles (2012) This gripping documentary, shown in honor of Yom HaShoah on April 27, is about the formation of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. When Hitler began firing Jewish musicians in the early 1930s, violinist Bronislow Huberman moved these great artists to Palestine. "With courage, resourcefulness, and an entourage of allies including Arturo Toscanini and Albert Einstein, Huberman saved nearly 1,000 Jews – and guaranteed the survival of Europe's musical heritage... A timeless tale of a brilliant young man coming of age, and the suspenseful story of how his efforts impacted cultural history."

#### Thursday, May 1, 7:45 pm: Inventing our Lives, the Kibbutz Experiment (2011)

The Kibbutz Movement was a central force in the formation of the state of Israel, and May 1 - "International Worker's Day" – was for many years celebrated with great pomp in Israel's Kibbutzim. "With their desire to create a Jewish homeland and build a more just society, the first settlers helped place kibbutzim in the vanguard of Israeli history. In doing so, they became a magnet for all those who shared one thing in common – a powerful urge to invent their own lives." Will the kibbutz movement and its socialist idealism survive a new capitalist reality? You are invited to wear red to this viewing for International Workers' Day or blue-and-white in honor of Israel Independence Day, May 6. Discussion following the film moderated by PCS member Ofri Felder.

Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 pm: *The Gatekeepers* (2012) Nominated for the Academy Awards in the Best Documentary category and winner of numerous international awards, this film is a must-see for anyone interested in the future of the state of Israel both as an independent Jewish state and as a viable democracy. It includes amazingly candid interviews with six of Israel's heads of the Shin-Bet, Israel's secret service, as they grapple with their successes and failures and reconsider their positions regarding the Palestinian conflict. At once disturbing and affirming, the film raises questions about current Israeli politics. Discussion following the film moderated by PCS member David Felder.

For more information, please e-mail Israel Action Committee co-chair Ofri Felder at <a href="mailto:ofelder@optonline.net">ofelder@optonline.net</a> or call the PCS office at 769-2672. Advanced registration recommended.

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### Can You Do a Mitzvah in September?

Do you live within walking distance of PCS? Are you willing and able to do a mitzvah? The family of Zennor Angove-Cohen, who is becoming a Bat Mitzvah September 20, 2014, is looking for a place to stay for close relatives, a family of four. They are coming in from out of town and need a place to stay within walking distance on Friday, September 19 and Saturday, September 20. If you think you can help, please be in touch with Zennor's grandmother, Elaine Cohen, at elainec@acohen.com or call her at 914-318-9146. Thank you!

# Building Communities One Lecture at a Time

A synergistic offering to address special needs in the Westchester Jewish Community

## Wednesday, March 19, 2014

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Program (WAHS and WATE Educators)

at Congregation Sons of Israel
1666 Pleasantville Road, Briarcliff Manor, NY

# BRINGING THE SIBLINGS' VOICE INTO THE CLASSROOM: an important resource for understanding differences in a family.

Participants will view *The Sibling's Voice* documentary, discuss case studies in groups and receive resources on ways in which to better support students and families.

Much has been written about ways the Jewish community can make their schools and synagogues more inclusive of people with disabilities. Growing numbers of Jewish synagogues have become more accessible to the disabled and many school programs have been created to be more inclusive to children with special needs. There is a commitment to make Jewish communities more "diversity sensitive" and efforts to make parents feel more welcome for their child with a difference.

#### Presenters:

Joan Chess and Meryl Schaffer have facilitated groups and workshops for siblings of children with special needs since 1996. They have been listening to children and young adults talk about their experiences. Throughout this process they have collected data in order to better understand what it means to be a sibling of a brother or sister with special needs. Meryl and Joan both work for the Mamaroneck Public School District in Westchester County, New York. Meryl is a licensed clinical social worker who has worked extensively with families of children with special needs. Joan is a certified school psychologist whose connection to this work comes from professional and personal experiences. She is the mother of four children, one of whom is severely disabled.

#### Event is free, but please RSVP to Roni Shapiro, 914-762-2700

Please consider making a donation to support future enriching events.



# Gail Benzion-Beyer, Psy.D. Licensed Psychologist Psychotherapy for 16 Dakin Avenue Children, Adolescents Mt. Kisco, N.Y. 10549 and Families 914-907-6877 drgsbb@gmail.com

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# Maya Benattar, MA, MT-BC, LCAT Music Therapist

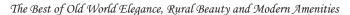
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For more information contact:
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Rabbi Mark Sameth rabbi@shalompcs.com

To contact PCS: Phone (914) 769-2672; Fax (914) 769-1795; Website: www.shalomPCS.com

Marcy Gray, Synagogue Administrator: (914) 769-2672; mgray@shalomPCS.com Galit Sperling, Religious School: (914) 773-0043; principal@shalompcs.com Barbara Doctor, Member Accounts: (914) 747-3017; Accounts@shalomPCS.com

# PAINTING FROM THE INSIDE OUT

## Guided by Eve-Marie Elkin Schaffer, LCAT, LMSW

Painting from the Inside Out uses paint as a catalyst for growth and exploration.... encouraging adults and children to express spontaneously,

without judgment or concern for outcome. The paintbrush is a tool; whether it is a color a dot, an outline or an image, a gesture appears from within. Spontaneity is awakened for exploration and play.

No training is involved. No skills required; just the desire to experience a sense of freedom and joy.

More info: www.evemarieelkin.com eveelkin@yahoo.com, 914 909 6292



#### Hola, ¿habla español? ¿No? ¡Qué pena!

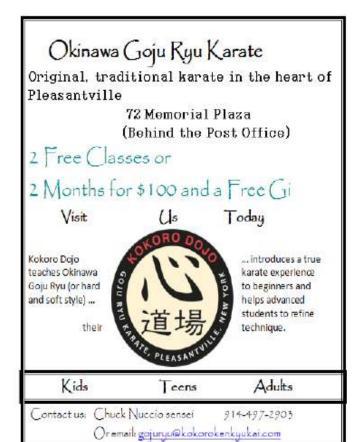
**SPANISH LESSONS** 

Brush up on your Spanish:

- if you're traveling
- to have a conversation
- to prepare for your school or college exams

Native Spanish speaker with an MA in Language Teaching.
Call Cristina A. Martinez at 914-739-7457, or email: inspanish@optonline.net







# FINE DINING ATTENTION TO DETAIL SUPERIOR SERVICE

To arrange a visit with our event planner, please contact us at 914-235-4400



#### MARCH 2014 YAHR ZEITS

Milton Perlmutter, Father of David Perlmutter

Ida Cohen, Mother of Hirsh Cohen

Sidney Dulberg, Grandfather of Lisa Lipkin

Sarah Havazelet, Mother of Tali Havazelet

Charles Lubelsky, Father of Janice Sandbank

David Friedman, Father of Marty Friedman

Harold Altman, Father of Barbara Altman Bruno

March 29

March 29



#### 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.

#### **NEWSLETTER ACCEPTS ADS!**

The PCS Newsletter is published monthly, online, from September through June, and it is emailed to every member family as well as to prospective members and some Jewish organizations.

If you provide professional or business services in the area, the PCS newsletter might provide some extra, valuable visibility. To arrange for your ad to appear in the newsletter, here's what you need to know:

#### \* Deadlines:

Ads should be submitted by the 15th of the month. They can be emailed to Judy Chinitz at judyhope@ optonline.net or cristina@lightbodymusic.com.

#### \* Ad Specifications:

Ads will be published in one size only: one-quarter page, which is approximately 3  $1/2 \times 4 3/4$  inches. The artwork should be provided by the advertiser.

#### \*Advertising Rates:

The cost per ad (for 10 issues - no bulletin published in July and August) is \$125 for 1/4 page. Note: Checks preferred. Can be mailed to Pleasantville Community Synagogue, PO Box 148, Pleasantville, NY 10570 with "newsletter ad" in the memo section. To pay by credit card, please call the synagogue office at 914-769-2672.

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#### 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, their chairs, and contact information.

#### **Adult Education**

Barbara Doctor bdoctor670@gmail.com

#### B'nei Mitzvah

Ed Sperling edsperling@gmail.com

#### **Building Committee**

Richard Levine

rlevine@shalomPCS.com

#### Jewish Education

Kiersten Zweibaum info@shalomPCS.com

#### Communications

Cristina Altieri-Martinez cmartinez@shalomPCS.com

#### Spiritual Life

Peter Schaffer pschaffer@shalomPCS.com

#### **Finance**

April Lasher Sanders alasher@shalomPCS.com

#### **Fundraising**

Kenneth Fuirst kfuirst@@shalomPCS.com

#### **High Holidays**

Jerry Neuburger ineuburger@shalomPCS.com

#### **Human Resources**

Karen Neuburger info@shalomPCS.com

#### Membership Engagement

Laurie Hirsch Schulz

Ihirschschulz@shalomPCS.com

#### Membership Outreach

Leyla Nakisbendi Leyla@shalomPCS.com

#### **Israel Action Committee**

Ofri Felder ofelder@shalomPCS.com

Seth Rutman srutman@shalomPCS.com

#### Tikkun Olam

Michael Gold mgold@shalomPCS.com

#### **Youth Committee**

Laurie Hirsch Schulz info@shalomPCS.com

#### **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.

#### **FAIR SHARE/GENERAL FUND**

SHELIA AND MARTIN MAJOR

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

RHEA WOLFTHAL, IN MEMORY OF HER BELOVED UNCLE, BARNEY ETKIN

#### **ED SPERLING FUND**

VIVIAN CHANG AND MARK FREIHEIT IN HONOR OF THE OCCASION OF THEIR SON, JACOB, BECOMING A BAR MITZVAH

#### KIDDUSH FUND

6TH GRADE FAMILIES IN HONOR OF KITAH VAV SHABBATON

VIVIAN CHANG AND MARK FREIHEIT IN HONOR OF THE OCCASION OF THEIR SON, JACOB, BECOMING A BAR MITZVAH

DEBORAH ROSENBERG AND MARC FREEDMAN IN HONOR OF THE OCCASION OF THEIR DAUGHTER, JULIET, BECOMING A BAT MITZVAH

MARGARET AND MARK COLEMAN

#### ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The PCS Newsletter is published monthly, online, from September through June. Articles and photos should be submitted by the 24th of the month. They can be e-mailed to Judith Chinitz, Editor, at <a href="mailed:judyhope@optonline.net">judyhope@optonline.net</a> or dropped off at the newsletter box in the Synagogue office.

Pleasantville Community Synagogue \* 219 Bedford Road \* Pleasantville, NY 10570 phone (914) 769 - 2672 fax (914) 769 - 1795



#### Pleasantville Community Synagogue

#### **FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

#### **Building Fund**

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

#### General Fund/Fair Share

Helps to finance any need of the synagogue considered necessary by the Board of Trustees. *I* 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.

#### **Hebrew School 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.

#### Yahrzeit Memorial Board Nameplate (\$360)

A nameplate with the name and date of departed loved ones will be lit in their honor on the anniversary of their passing. Please contact the office for appropriate form.

| Donation in honor/memory of (please specif       |                     |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| Donor contact information (if not a PCS member): |                     |  |  |  |
| Check enclosed payable to <i>Pleasantville</i> C | Community Synagogue |  |  |  |
| Bill my credit card                              |                     |  |  |  |
| Credit Card #                                    | Exp. Date:/         |  |  |  |
| Circle One: VISA MasterCard                      |                     |  |  |  |
| Name as it Appears on card:                      | <del>-</del>        |  |  |  |
| Phone number in case verification is needed:     |                     |  |  |  |
| Your Signature                                   |                     |  |  |  |
| -                                                |                     |  |  |  |

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).

### ADAR I 29 - ADAR II 29 5774

## March 2014 - PCS Calendar

| Sunday                                                                                             | Monday                                | Tuesday                                               | Wednesday                                     | Thursday                                                        | Friday                                                                                         | Saturday                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No Hebrew<br>School                                                                                | 7:15pm Yoga<br>class                  |                                                       | 26                                            | 27                                                              | Candle lighting 5:26 pm                                                                        | 9:00am Morning Meditation; Shabbat Service 9:30 am Shabbat Shekalim Shabbat before Rosh Chodesh Adar Parashat Pekudei 6:57 pm Havdalah            |
| Rosh Chodesh<br>Adar II                                                                            | 7:15pm Yoga<br>class                  | 3 4                                                   | 5                                             | 6                                                               | Alef-Bet<br>Shabbaton<br>PCS House Band<br>Candle lighting<br>5:34 pm                          | 9:00am Morning Meditation; Shabbat Service including Bat Mitzvah of Juliet Freedman, 9:30 am Parashat Vayikra 7:05 pm Havdalah                    |
| Executive Committee meeting  Pre- and post-adoption group, 6 pm, at PCS. schwarzruffm@jcc any.org. | 7:15pm Yoga<br>class                  | 11                                                    | 12                                            | Ask the Rabbi with<br>Kita Hey<br>PCS Board<br>meeting          | Candle lighting 6:42 pm                                                                        | 9:00am Morning Meditation; Family Ed Shabbat, 10 am 6:00pm Megillah Reading and Family Purim services and celebration                             |
| Palooza Week begins Hebrew School Purim Celebration Purim                                          | 7:15pm Yoga<br>class<br>Shushan Purim | 7 18<br>7:30pm PCS Book<br>Fair and Author<br>Reading | 7:30pm PCS Book<br>Fair and Author<br>Reading | 7:45pm Israel<br>Documentary Film<br>Night: "Life in<br>Stills" | PJ Shabbat dinner<br>Kitah Gimmel<br>Shabbaton<br>PCS House Band<br>Candle lighting<br>6:50 pm | 9:00am Morning Meditation; Shabbat Service, 9:30 am Purim Shpiel! Parashat Shmini Shabbat Parah Shabbat after Purim 8:21 pm Havdalah              |
| 23                                                                                                 | 7:15pm Yoga<br>class                  | 25                                                    | 7:30pm 5th grade parents' meeting at PCS      | 27                                                              | Candle lighting 6:57 pm                                                                        | 9:00am Morning Meditation; Shabbat Service including Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Gordin, 9:30 am Parashat Tazria 8:28 pm Havdalah                        |
| 30                                                                                                 | 7:15pm Yoga<br>class                  | Rosh Chodesh<br>Nisan                                 | 7:00pm Chagall presentation at PCS            | Ask the Rabbi with<br>Kita Vav                                  | PCS House Band  Candle lighting 7:05 pm                                                        | 9:00am Morning<br>Meditation;<br>Shabbat Service<br>including Bat<br>Mitzvah of Yakira<br>Sameth, 9:30 am<br>Parashat Metzora<br>8:36 pm Havdalah |

Note: Times and dates of events may change after the newsletter has come out. To get the latest information on any possible changes, please check the calendar on our website: <a href="www.ShalomPCS.com">www.ShalomPCS.com</a>. Future months are also on the website.



## SAVE THE DATES:

Friday night, March 7: Kitah Alef-Bet Shabbaton

Saturday morning, March 15: Family Education Shabbat

Saturday night, March 15: Purim services and celebration with Megillah reading, 6 pm

Friday night, March 21: Kitah Gimmel Shabbaton

Saturday night, March 22: PCS Purim Spiel Gala

March 16-23: 4th Annual PCS Palooza Week (see pages 6-7 for details about book fairs, films, dinner, and so much more!)

Wednesday evening, April 2: Chagall Presentation from the Jewish Museum of NY

