



## THE RABBI'S COLUMN: MY THREE RABBIS

**By Mark Sameth**

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My life has been blessed by three rabbis.

Rabbi Jacob Shankman was the rabbi of my youth. A wunderkind (he entered Harvard at the age of 14), he was ordained in 1930 at the tender age of 21. His oratory was, in keeping with the times, majestic. From Rabbi Shankman I learned to revere.

Rabbi Marshall Meyer was the rabbi of my middle adulthood. Marshall, as he insisted we call him, was a force of nature. His passion knew no bounds. He was a great lover of music, and his services were highly emotional and rang with deep concern for social justice. From Marshall I learned how to pray.

Rabbi Jack Stern was the rabbi of my late teens through my late thirties; one of the most caring and present people I have ever met in my life. He saw our family through more than one tragedy. Yet he was there for you in all of the small moments as well. From Rabbi Stern I learned how to care.

Rabbi Stern passed away a few weeks ago, his funeral held the Sunday just before Passover. He was the last of my

rabbis to pass, making me - and all of his other disciples who have tried, to the extent possible, to emulate some small portion of his pastoral model - rabbinic orphans.

You may remember this past Yom Kippur I brought a teaching of Rabbi Stern's from 28 years earlier: the limited extent to which any of us can change, but how we are all complex and therefore blessed with more than one trait upon which we can call in our effort to be the good people we all want to be. That his words stayed with me all those years would not surprise anyone who was also sitting in his pews back then. Even today, any of us can still quote from the many sermons he gave and not because of any flashy rhetorical style. He was decidedly understated and mild. But rather, as the Chassidic Master, the Berditchever Rebbe put it, because "Words from the heart enter the heart" (Parshat Vayigash).

Rabbi Stern was all about heart. His body was broken from childhood, and he was plagued with health issues all his life. But as his dear friend Al Voorspan said, he had a heart big enough to carry us all. May his memory be for a blessing.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Although the academic year is not yet quite over, I'm taking this opportunity to do a review of our progress and the changes that have been made since September. I'm also requesting that you mark your calendars to note the annual meeting, which will take place on the evening of June 12. At that time we will again review these changes and any new developments and ask you to ratify an important change in our by-laws.

By any standard of measurement this has been an outstanding year for our synagogue: we have had a record number of activities ranging from a lecture series by Sarah Tauber, several free film showings, an outstanding Purimspiel for the adults, and an entire week of outreach activities we called PCS Palooza, which ended with a very special concert by our own Lisa Lipkin. These programs have helped broaden our appeal to the many different constituencies that are PCS and hopefully peaked the interest of those not yet a part of our community. And there is still more to come: a progressive dinner and a Lag B'omer picnic both in May.

On the personnel front there

have also been major changes. Most of you are aware by now that Marcy Gray is our new administrator, taking over for Gale Silverberg. In addition we have hired a new Hebrew School principal, Ronni Metzger, who will be replacing Michal Solomon, the founder of the school and its principal for the past 14 years. While we are sad to see Michal leave, we are excited by the prospect of Ronni as the principal. She brings many years of experience as a teacher at Bet Torah, teaching almost all grades at one time or another, and an enthusiasm that will reinvigorate the school. I would also add that we had a number of responses to the ad we ran, and Ronni was our choice from a group of outstanding candidates.

The last change in personnel is hardly a change at all, but the return of Ed Sperling, who had been a tutor to many of the students who were b'nei mitzvah over the years. Not only was Ed a teacher and an inspiration to all of the students who were fortunate enough to be guided through their haftorah and torah lessons, but he will now also serve as a model for everyone in our community for the courage

and determination he has shown in coming back from a disastrous bicycle injury. As Ed will not be ready to assume his duties until some time in the fall, his daughter, Galit, has agreed to tutor those students whose lessons will be starting in May and June and the early fall. She, too, is an inspiring teacher of drama here in Pleasantville and will allow us to guide the children in a seamless transition to her father.

I hope each of you in our community has the opportunity to meet these wonderful additions to our staff and to share the enthusiasm that the Board and I have for our future.

- Peter Schaffer





# Rosh Chodesh Sivan Friday, May 6 at 7:15 p.m.

**Bring family and friends for services and a very special  
Shabbat dinner in celebration of Rosh Chodesh.**

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# **ASK THE Rabbi:**

## **Why There Are No Capital Letters in Hebrew, and Other (Almost) Unanswerable Questions.**

*Last month, Rabbi Mark had a session of “Ask the Rabbi” with our Third Graders. Here are some excerpts from that discussion. We were just about to celebrate Passover (Pesach) as you can tell from the first batch of questions...*

Jacob Taboh: Why do we break the middle matzah in half?

Dylan Marcus: And why is the middle matzah called the afikomen?

Deborah Johnston: And why do we hide the matzah?

Sophia Rutman: And why we do we have three matzahs?

Rabbi Mark: Great questions! Well, the three matzahs stand for the three kinds of Jews from long ago - the kohanim (Jewish priests), the levi'im (who helped in the temple), and the yisraelim (everybody else) - and it reminds us that we're all together! We break the middle matzah so that we can hide half of it. That's the "afikomen" - a Greek word meaning "dessert". Why Greek? Well, even though Hebrew is our holy language, Greek was the language most Jews spoke back then (just like most Jews today speak English). Now, why do we hide the afikomen? It's a game we play to keep everyone's attention until the end of the Seder. I used to love to play it when I was a kid, and now I love watching the kids in our family play!

Zennor Angove-Cohen: Why are you asking us to ask you questions?!

Rabbi Mark: Another great question! We always learn more when we have a question. So we encourage children to ask - not only the four questions at the Seder, but all the time. If you have a question you should ask it. Never think it's not a good question. Every question is a good question, and that's how we come to be great learners!

Nathan Foote: God likes peace, so why did God kill the Egyptians?

Rabbi Mark: That's a very important question, Nathan. Yes, God likes peace. So when the Egyptians were chasing us, and we got safely to the other side of the sea but the Egyptians drowned, the story is that God told us - Don't sing! Don't celebrate! My creatures are drowning! Even though we are glad that we are free, we are never happy when someone else dies - even if that person thought for the moment that they wanted to hurt us.

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

## **ASK THE RABBI, CONTINUED**

Owen Stone: *Why do Jews believe in one God?*

Rabbi Mark: Is there anyone in the world that you have never, ever disagreed with? I didn't think so! If there were more than one God, they'd probably disagree with each other, maybe even fight. That's what people used to believe a long time ago. Judaism was the first religion to say that there is only God. That everyone was created equal. That all boys and girls, all men and women are related to each other. We're all one family. We need to care for each other.

Aaron Foote: *Why are you a rabbi, and not doing some other job?*

Yakira Sameth: He used to be a songwriter!

Rabbi Mark: Yes, I used to have another job. But I wanted to become a rabbi because I love being Jewish; I love learning about Judaism, and teaching Judaism; and I love to help people. Being a rabbi let's me do all these things.

Jonah Lichtenthal: *Why do we read the Torah every year?*

Rabbi Mark: Thanks, Jonah. Yes, we read the Torah every year, and at the end of the Jewish year (in the fall) we have a big celebration called Simchat Torah (The Joy of The Torah) – and then we start reading it all over again! It's our most important book, and even though we read it every year, every year we learn something new from it. That's the great secret of the Torah, that you can study it your whole life and not learn everything it has to teach.

Yakira Sameth: *Why are there five books in the Torah?*

Rabbi Mark: In ancient times some people thought the Torah was only four books. But then someone – the Kohain Gadol, or Jewish High Priest - found a fifth book (Deuteronomy), and brought it to King Josiah. This was in the 7th century BCE. That's two thousand six hundred years ago! So we've had five books for a very long time: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy; or in Hebrew: Bereshit, Shemot, Vayikra, BaMidbar, and Devarim.

Maya Sabatier: *What does "Mishnah" mean?*

Rabbi Mark: Thanks, Maya. It sounds a little bit like the name for the Jewish New Year, doesn't it? Rosh Hashana. That's because the Hebrew word for year (shana) means to repeat. So "mishnah" means something that is repeated. There's a belief that God gave Moses two Torahs: one that was written down (that's the one we have in the ark) and another one that was not written down, that people would repeat out loud to each other to remember. That Torah which we repeated out loud is called the Mishnah.

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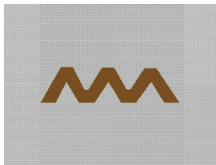
## ASK THE RABBI, CONTINUED

Jeremy Tetenman: *Why are there no capital letters in the Hebrew alphabet?*

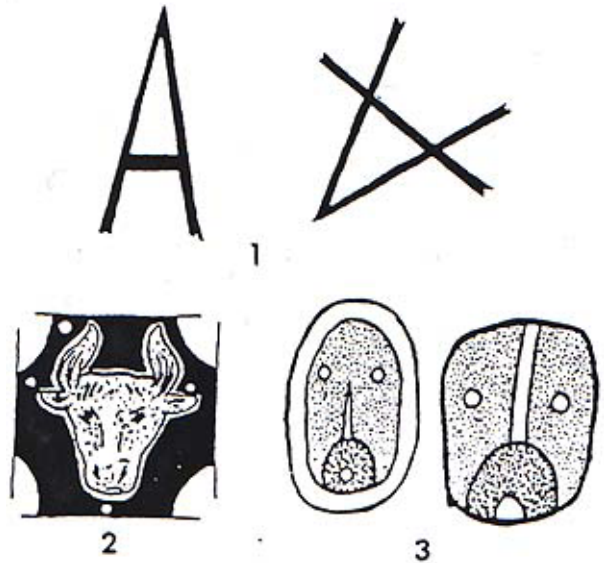
Rabbi Mark: The Hebrew alphabet is so old, it started out as pictures, and there's no such thing as a capital picture! Here's the way the ancient aleph was drawn. It was a picture of an ox. Turn it upside down, and you have our modern letter "A". And here's the way the ancient letter mem was drawn. It was wavy because it stood for the Hebrew word for water – mayim. And it looks like our modern letter "M". Did you know that the word "alphabet" actually comes from the Hebrew? It's from the first two Hebrew letters: Aleph-Bet.

Jacob Coleman: *Why do we wear costumes on Purim?*

Rabbi Mark: Well, in the Purim story Esther was hiding the fact that she was a Jew. So hiding by dressing in costumes is a way we remember that. The rabbis of a long time ago taught that a lot of things are hiding in the world: sometimes goodness is hiding and we have to go look for it. Sometimes our belief in ourselves is hiding. We think: I can't do this! Or: I can't do that! So then we have to go looking inside. But God gave us everything we need to be the best person we can be. We just have to look for our inner strengths, and bring them out to help the world be a better place!



ANCIENT MEM



ANCIENT ALEPH

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## ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

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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](mailto:judyhope@optonline.net) 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

# PCS POT LUCK PICNIC!



**Everyone's invited to share in this fun-filled PCS community Lag B'Omer celebration!**

Sunday, May 22, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

At Nannahagen Park on Lake Street in Pleasantville

(Weather permitting only! If it rains, come to Hebrew School as usual!)

Please bring:

- A dairy or vegetarian dish to share
- Blankets and chairs, balls, water balloons, and whatever lawn games you'd like!



Mark  
Your  
Calendar

SAVE THE DATE FOR PCS'S AWESOME PROGRESSIVE  
DINNER!  
MAY 14, 2011



By now you should have received an e-mailed invitation to  
PCS's Progressive Dinner

**May 14**

If you haven't, please check your spam folder! And, if  
you have, contact [Sue Furst](mailto:sgfurst@gmail.com) at [sgfurst@gmail.com](mailto:sgfurst@gmail.com) to  
RSVP or to get more information as soon as possible.

This is a fun (and delicious!) way to connect and  
reconnect with your PCS community.



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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**

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[info@shalomPCS.com](mailto:info@shalomPCS.com)

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### **Building Committee**

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Seth Rutman  
[srutman@shalomPCS.com](mailto:srutman@shalomPCS.com)

### **Tikkun Olam**

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### **Youth Committee**

**Evan Kingsley**  
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## NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Three wonderful model Seders have just ended. It is a huge effort but definitely worth it. The students learned and relearned the Passover story and songs and the customs and history, at their grade levels.

Somehow we manage to do it every year, and it culminated in our festive model Seders that look fresh every year.

The menu is very basic: matzo, parsley, salt water, horseradish, hardboiled eggs, grape juice, charoset and macaroons...and there you have it. Still, it tastes, smells and feels like Pesach. The transformation of the classrooms with the festive Seder tables is quite magical, and the students really respond to it.

Thank you again to Emma Reisman for taking photos of the 4th and 5th grade Seder which you will all enjoy looking at in this newsletter on pages 15 and 16.

Today Rabbah (thank you)

- to Helen Harrison for coordinating the Bet shabbaton,
- to Jennifer Yamuder for running the Passover Candy fundraiser.
- to Helen Harrison for preparing the Charoset for the 1st and 2nd grade model Seders,
- to Emma Reisman and her Mom for preparing the Charoset for the older classes,
- to Emma Reisman for taking wonderful photographs at the model Seder,
- to all the class mothers who helped to organize the model Seders, and to the parents who brought in the food and helped with the set-ups and clean-ups. We couldn't have done it without you,
- to our volunteer judges, Emily Simon, Nathaniel Rosenberg, Ethan Furst and Marisa Urbieto, who helped evaluate the performances of the different classes during the model Seders,
- and to Charlie Markowitz and Isiah Schraeder for impersonating Elija the prophet at the model Seders with their violins.

I hope you had a wonderful Passover too!

Chag sameach v'kasher

Michal Solomon

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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.

## 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](http://www.evemarieelkin.com)  
[eveelkin@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:inspanish@optonline.net)



## MAY 2011 YAHRZEITS

Johanna Rappaport, Mother of Jennifer Yamuder  
Philip Hersh, Father of Karen Sanders  
Mildred Goodman, Mother of Jonathan Goodman  
Morris Borenstein, Father of Marc Borenstein  
Herman Sheft, Father of Janice Gambino  
Mildred Ross, Mother of Anne Ross Tetenman  
Florry Jablow, Mother of Robert Jablow  
Robert Levine, Father of Daniel Levine  
Albert Marans, Father of Ron Marans  
Charles Weiner, Father of Steven Weiner  
Max Wall, Father of Naomi Novak  
Harriet Sigal, Mother of Melanie Gordin  
Anna Wolfthal, Mother of Philip Wolfthal  
Joseph Gaines, Father of Jonathan Church  
Leslie Schmidt, Daughter of Judith Schmidt

May 1  
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May 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.

## **NEWSLETTER HAS STARTED ACCEPTING 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 organisations.

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](mailto:judyhope@optonline.net) or [cristina@lightbodymusic.com](mailto:cristina@lightbodymusic.com).

### **\* Ad Specifications:**

Ads will be published in one size only: one-quarter page, which is approximately 3 1/2 x 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 \$100 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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## CONTRIBUTIONS

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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.

### **ED SPERLING FUND**

JAN AND BERNARD GORDON

# FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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## 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).

# SAVE THE DATE!

BE A PART OF HISTORY...  
BE A PART OF THE  
ISRAEL DAY PARADE  
JUNE 5, 2011



Join Pleasantville Community Synagogue and other Westchester groups to be part of the "Westchester Cluster" marching down Fifth Avenue!

For more information, contact Israel Action Committee co-chair, Ofri Felder, at [ofelder@optonline.net](mailto:ofelder@optonline.net), or call the PCS office at 769-2672.

# PCS MODEL SEDERS



Photo coverage  
continues on next  
page



Much thanks to Emma Reisman for these wonderful photos!



## May 2011 - PCS Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>Yom HaShoah</b> 12th day of the Omer <b>Yom HaShoah Service</b>	2 13th day of the Omer	3 <b>Jewish Meditation, 7:30am</b> 14th day of the Omer	4 Rosh Chodesh Iyar 15th day of the Omer	5 Rosh Chodesh Iyar 16th day of the Omer	6 <b>Friday Night Service</b> 7:15pm <b>with Birthday Blessings</b> Rosh Chodesh-led service followed by Shabbat Dinner 17th day of the Omer 7:39pm-7:57pm - Candle lighting	7 <b>Shabbat Service 9am</b> Torah Study 12:15pm 18th day of the Omer Parashat Emor 9:10pm-9:11pm - Havdalah (72 min)
8 19th day of the Omer Hebrew School Yom Ha'Atzma'ut Program	9 <b>Yom HaZikaron</b> 20th day of the Omer	10 <b>Jewish Meditation, 7:30am</b> <b>Yom HaAtzma'ut</b> 21st day of the Omer Hebrew School Yom Ha'Atzma'ut Program	11 22nd day of the Omer Social Action Committee Meeting 7:30pm	12 23rd day of the Omer Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30pm	13 <b>Friday Night Service</b> 7:15pm <b>with PCS House Band and Gimmell Shabbaton</b> 24th day of the Omer 7:46pm-8:04pm - Candle lighting	14 <b>Shabbat Service 9am</b> Torah Study 12:15pm 25th day of the Omer Parashat Behar 9:17pm-9:18pm - Havdalah (72 min) <b>PCS Progressive Dinner</b>
15 26th day of the Omer	16 27th day of the Omer	17 <b>Jewish Meditation, 7:30am</b> 28th day of the Omer	18 29th day of the Omer <b>NO HEBREW SCHOOL</b>	19 30th day of the Omer <b>NO HEBREW SCHOOL</b>	20 <b>Friday Night Service</b> 7:15pm 31st day of the Omer 7:53pm-8:11pm - Candle lighting <b>Zayin Graduation</b>	21 <b>Shabbat Service 9am</b> Torah Study 12:15pm <b>Morning Meditation 9 am</b> <b>Family Education 10 am</b> 32nd day of the Omer Parashat Bechukotai 9:24pm-9:25pm - Havdalah (72 min) <b>Connrenational Retreat</b>
22 33rd day of the Omer Lag B'Omer <b>Community Picnic</b>  <b>Pre- and Post-Adoptive Parent Group at PCS - 7pm-8:30pm</b> (Share the joys and challenges of parenting through	23 34th day of the Omer	24 35th day of the Omer	25 36th day of the Omer	26 37th day of the Omer <b>LAST DAY OF HEBREW SCHOOL</b>	27 <b>Friday Night Service</b> 7:15pm 38th day of the Omer 7:59pm-8:17pm - Candle lighting	28 <b>Shabbat Service 9am</b> Torah Study 12:15pm 39th day of the Omer Parashat Bamidbar 9:30pm-9:31pm - Havdalah (72 min)
29 40th day of the Omer	30 41st day of the Omer	31 42nd day of the Omer	1 <b>Yom Yerushalayim</b> 43rd day of the Omer	2 44th day of the Omer	3 <b>Friday Night Service</b> 7:15pm Rosh Chodesh Sivan 45th day of the Omer 8:04pm-8:22pm - Candle lighting	4 <b>Shabbat Service 9am</b> Torah Study 12:15pm Parashat Nasso 46th day of the Omer 9:35pm-9:36pm - Havdalah (72 min)

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: [www.ShalomPCS.com](http://www.ShalomPCS.com). Future months are also on the website.

## 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 Fuiirst b.Robert Levine c. The Dosters d.Benjamin Yampolsky e.Sophie Epstein f.Ilana Cohen							

# **WJCS Jewish Spiritual Healing Center** **Spring Programs**

## **SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUPS**

The Empty Place: For those Mourning the Death of a Spouse

It takes time to fully absorb the impact of a major loss. Share your loss with the support of others, discussing how to find strength and rebuild one's identity as a single person, how to navigate family and social complications, and how to embrace life again.

Co-facilitated by Lisa Leffell, LCSW, and Rabbi Pamela Wax

6 Wednesdays, April 6, 13, 27, May 4, May 18, June 1 – 12-1:30 PM (\$72 suggested donation)

## **THE FOLLOWING GROUPS HAVE ALREADY STARTED BUT YOU CAN STILL JOIN!!!**

Meditation and Middot

This workshop will introduce mussar practice through tikkun middot ("refinement of soul-traits"), with the goal of learning how to act wisely with compassion and justice. We will include study of texts related to particular middot, qualities of heart and of behavior, and various techniques for cultivating these soul-traits. Between sessions participants will be offered texts to study (in paired hevruta) to sustain their practice and deepen their sense of observing change in themselves.

Facilitated by Rabbi Pamela Wax

4 Mondays, Feb. 28, March 21, May 2, June 6 – 6:30-8:30 PM (\$72 suggested donation)

A Chants Encounter

Chanting is a meditative and soul-expanding process. Join us for these evenings of harmony, melody, and surrender through the chanting of sacred phrases of Jewish liturgy and text.

Co-facilitated by Ruth Rosenblum, LCSW, and Rabbi Pamela Wax

4 Mondays, February 14, March 7, April 4, May 9 – 6:30-8:00 PM (\$54 suggested donation)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER GROUPS, 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



You are cordially invited to the  
Annual Julian Y. Bernstein  
Distinguished Service Awards Ceremony  
honoring  
The Westchester Jewish Community's  
Outstanding Volunteers  
and  
A Memorial Tribute to Eugene Lubin (z"l)  
Wednesday, May 18, 7:30pm

Jewish Community Center of Harrison  
130 Union Avenue ~ Harrison, NY 10528

ASL interpreting will be provided  
Kosher Dairy Dessert Reception follows ceremony  
914/328-7001 margo@wjcouncil.org <http://www.wjcouncil.org>

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

Sunday, May 1: Yom Hashoa (Holocaust) Commemoration

Friday, May 6: PCS Rosh Chodesh Women's Group leads Shabbat Service

Saturday, May 14: Progressive Dinner

Monday, May 16: Rabbi Mark at Beth El, New Rochelle for WAJE's Night of Learning

Sunday, May 22: Lag b'Omer Picnic

