COMMUNITY

From the Rabbi's Study

Rabbi David Katz, Interim

"Al tifrosh min hatzibur." “Don't separate yourself from the community.” (Avot 2.4) That's what the Sage Hillel said 2000 years ago and that's what's been on my mind these last few months ever since a former congregant told me she didn't get enough out of the Temple to remain a member. I would have been happier had she said she was committing herself to another Temple but that was not the case. She defined her relationship to the CBY strictly as a consumer. The Temple was the product, she was the buyer and she saw little use for the merchandise being offered. There was no sense of responsibility, obligation, or commitment to Jewish life.

I masked my disappointment and wondered how one of the children of Israel could have fallen so far...from being a light to the nations to becoming a purchaser of services.

There was a time when there was no question what it meant to be Jewish....to perfect oneself morally, to repair the world, to strengthen one's relationship with God, through prayer and study within the context of peoplehood. We read in Leviticus: "You shall be holy for I the Lord your God am holy." (Lev. 19:2) The word 'you' is in the second person plural, meaning, "You, the entire community." It is every Jew's responsibility to strive for holiness.

But in order for the Jewish people to strive for holiness Jews must support one another. The responsibility to keep the people strong must be shared by all, not a few. In order to maintain strength all Jews must band together. Listen to the Torah's description of the scene when all Jews, past and present stood at Sinai to receive God's law and enter into the covenant.

continues on page 3
Congratulations B’naï Yisrael connects individuals to our Jewish heritage and weaves our traditions into our individual and family identities. Our religious traditions form a framework for meaningful Jewish lives, and help us to celebrate moments of wonder in life’s cycle and to find comfort in times of tragedy and sorrow. Our spiritual home connects our members to that which is Divine, to the rich variety of Jewish living, and to others in our community.

Community
Congregation B’naï Yisrael is the center of Jewish life in Armonk. As a neighborhood synagogue, we form a bond among our member families. The synagogue serves as a spiritual and a social center where individuals fulfill their religious needs and find meaning in Judaism at every stage of life.

Learning
Learning the lessons of our Jewish heritage is a primary focus at Congregation B’naï Yisrael. Together we discover the building blocks of Jewish life, expand our sense of self in a Jewish context, and apply Jewish wisdom to every stage of our journey.

Commitment to Others
The Jewish impulse to repair the world [Tikkun Olam] plays a central role in the life of our community. We care for other human beings and strive to make a difference in people’s lives through individual and communal acts of tzedakah here in Armonk, in our wider Westchester community, and throughout our world.

Investment
We are deeply committed to maintaining our vibrant community. We demonstrate our dedication by sharing our time and our resources to insure a healthy future for our synagogue.

Leadership
Our clergy and leadership are accessible and responsive. It is our responsibility to be deeply connected to one another, in order to hear what every individual and family needs, and learn how to strengthen our community.

Relevance
From ancient times, Judaism has thrived by maintaining its traditions in an evolving world. Our synagogue helps our families build contemporary Jewish lives. Through celebration and study, by taking care of our own and reaching out to help others, by respecting every individual and embodying a spirit of diversity, we are able to be authentic Jews in a modern world.
"You are standing today all of you, before the Lord your God, your leaders, your judges, your elders, and your guards; all the Jewish People. You, your wives, and the stranger who is in your camp, from the woodchopper to the drawers of your water. To enter into the Divine covenant...” (Dt. 29:9-11)

And here is the midrash which treats the words “all of you.”

“In the nature of things, when a man picks up a cluster of reeds, can he possibly break them at one time? But if picked one by one, then even a child can break them. Thus you find that Israel cannot be redeemed until they are one cluster.” (Tanchuma)

This lesson comes from a bygone age but is as relevant as ever today. Temples survive because Jews stick together to create community. The people survives because it recognizes that holiness resides within the group, not the individual. (Moses was cut out of the Haggadah to stress that the main character of the story is the people.) Hillel’s caution rings true today. “Do not separate yourselves from the community.” Rather bind yourself to your people for the contribution of every Jew sustains us all.

**CBY Cultural Connections**

CBY Cultural Connections sponsored two wonderful events this fall: A Walking Tour of Jewish Harlem and an author event with Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WunDunn, Pulitzer Prize winning authors. We look forward to planning more great events in the spring, including a Lower East Side Walking Tour, Author Series, and Film Series.
What is Happening with the Survey?

Brian Kaminer, Board of Trustees

We wanted to hear from you and you answered. During this year of transition it is especially important for your board members to understand the opinions from as many fellow congregants as possible.

Thank you to over 250 individuals who participated in the survey. The survey was sent to all adult members that we have an email address for, about 530. Our response rate so far is more than 46% which is great.

Now the task at hand is to review all the feedback and provide guidance to the board of trustees and various committees, including the rabbinic search committee. We have a small group of congregants, board members and clergy that have already started this process. While individual responses will not be shared publically, we will be looking for opportunities to engage congregants who share similar interests or have helpful points of view. We are focused on identifying helpful information across multiple responses.

Along with being advised by non-members who professionally administer surveys, we are also interested to connect with any members that might have relative expertise they can share.

One of the exciting components of the survey is based on Rabbi Katz’s initiative of requesting congregants to state the number of times they are willing to commit and participate in our congregational community when called to do so. We are happy to report that nearly 1,300 commitments have been made to-date. Several congregants have already asked “So, when will I be called?” The answer is soon, Rabbi Katz and a couple of congregants have started to plan next steps. Contact Rabbi Katz if you are interested to help.

Thank you for participating and encourage others to do so. Anyone still interested in taking the survey should find their personal e-mail invitation (which was sent to them by info@cbyarmonk.org) or contact the office to make sure we have your e-mail address.

Vodka, Latke, Shopka

Over 150 people joined us for our Vodka, Latke, Shopka Fundraiser on November 20 and 21. Thank you to everyone who helped us raise over $10,000.
Brotherhood Free Event: Hike & Lunch & Hang on Sunday, 12/7

Our CBY Brotherhood hosted their first successful event in October: a Tailgate Kick-off Party in the CBY parking lot.

Our second free CBY Brotherhood event, a Hike & Lunch & Hang, on Sunday, December 7 will include the great outdoors, food (of course) and watching some of the 1pm NFL game—if you can stick around.

Join us at 10:15am for an easy hike at the Greenwich Audubon—5 min from Modern Barn, 613 Riversville Rd, Greenwich, followed by a 12:00pm lunch at Aaron Kwittken’s home, 93 Round Hill Rd, Armonk.

Drop ins welcome for our hike. RSVP for our lunch to brotherhood@cbyarmonk.org.

The CBY Brotherhood’s mission is to provide a platform for male congregants to get to know each other and develop relationships in a casual social setting. The Brotherhood will focus on creating a sense of community through fun programs, fellowship, service and educational opportunities. All members and ideas are welcomed!
Holiday Recipes

Winter Veggie Soup

Ingredients
1 c. thinly sliced scallion (white part only)
3 Tbsp. olive oil
4 c. homemade or canned chicken stock
2 carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
11/2 c. boiling potatoes, peeled and cubed
1/2 tsp. dried thyme
11/2 c. broccoli florets
Salt and pepper

Directions
In a large saucepan, sauté the scallions in the olive oil over moderate heat until softened, stirring occasionally. Add the stock, carrots, potatoes, and thyme. Bring to a boil and simmer 5 minutes. Add the broccoli and salt and pepper to taste. Simmer 5 to 7 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender. Serves 4.

This is a hearty and tasty soup for a cold day.

Grandma Flora's Butter Cookies

Ingredients
1/4 lb. (1 stick) butter
1/2 c. sugar
1 large egg yolk
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 1/4 c. flour
1/2 rounded tsp. baking powder
Pinch of Salt
Walnut or pecan halves or jelly

Directions
Cream the butter and sugar together. Beat in the egg yolk and vanilla. Stir together the flour, baking powder, and salt and add slowly, beating until well combined. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Roll the dough into small balls. With your thumb, make a depression in the center of each cookie and fill with jelly or nuts. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake about 15 minutes, or until the edges begin to brown. Cool on a rack.

I have the most wonderful memories of Grandma's homemade cookies, which she made for her grandchildren and greatgrandchildren when she visited our home for the holidays.

It's sweet and yummy and perfect for the holidays.

Coca-Cola Brisket

Ingredients
4 to 6 lb. brisket
2 Tbsp. olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste
1 Tbsp. paprika
1 1/2 c. chopped celery
1 1/2 c. chopped onion
2 env. dry onion soup mix
2 garlic cloves
1 c. ketchup
1/2 c. hot water
2 c. Coca Cola

Directions
Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Brush the meat with oil. Season with salt, pepper, and paprika. Put the meat in a covered roasting pan and cover with celery and onion. In a small bowl, mix together the ketchup, hot water, and onion soup mix. Add the Coke and pour the liquid over the meat. Cover and bake 3 1/2 hours, basking every half hour.

Margi Forest

Jones

Ingredients
1/2 c. thinly sliced scallion (white part only)
3 Tbsp. olive oil
4 c. homemade or canned chicken stock
2 carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
1 c. sugar 2 boiling potatoes, peeled and cubed
1/2 tsp. dried thyme
1/2 c. broccoli florets
Salt and pepper

Directions
In a large saucepan, sauté the scallions in the olive oil over moderate heat until softened, stirring occasionally. Add the stock, carrots, potatoes, and thyme. Bring to a boil and simmer 5 minutes. Add the broccoli and salt and pepper to taste. Simmer 5 to 7 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender. Serves 4.

This is a hearty and tasty soup for a cold day.

Shari Applebaum

I have the most wonderful memories of Grandma's homemade cookies, which she made for her grandchildren and greatgrandchildren when she visited our home for the holidays.

It's sweet and yummy and perfect for the holidays.

Barbara Reiter

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Brush the meat with oil. Season with salt, pepper, and paprika. Put the meat in a covered roasting pan and cover with celery and onion. In a small bowl, mix together the ketchup, hot water, and onion soup mix. Add the Coke and pour the liquid over the meat. Cover and bake 3 1/2 hours, basking every half hour.

These recipes are from Congregation B'nai Yisrael's Family Cookbook, Delicious Dishes. To buy a copy, contact the temple office.
Gratitude

Cantor Hayley Kobilinsky

Ever hear the saying, “Practice what you preach”? It’s a bit of an occupational hazard to be a clergy who might find more need to preach than time to practice. We deal in the currency of morals and ethics, and there must always be some new and unique spin on old tales from our traditions. When preparing a sermon or d’var Torah, I work assiduously not to seem cliché, repetitive or inauthentic. I do try to have a clear message, however, and hopefully make people think. This is where the preaching versus practice comes into play. If one discusses the importance of making amends, does one already have? Or is that merely an unrealistic expectation of one’s congregants?

The short answer is that, while it is important to avoid hypocrisy no matter what one’s profession or calling is, there is no guarantee that a clergy person is a good person. In fact, I imagine that a wholly perfect person (whom surely does not exist) would not have experienced the struggles that help us grow and become better. How enlightening would a sermon be if it only spoke in terms of simple goodness, or if it contained no admonitions against evil or warnings of indifference? Thus a fine line is drawn; we speak about how to conduct ourselves as Jews and members of an enlightened society, while grappling with our own faults. Clergy are humans, complete with limitations and imperfections. That does not, however, excuse us from striving for better things. It is with this dichotomy that I have delved into a practice called mussar over the past several months, and which I continue to study.

Mussar is the study of self through the lens of Judaism. One engaged in mussar studies certain character traits, such as humility, anger, kindness or gratitude, as described in Jewish texts and writings, and does exercises to promote spiritual and personal growth in those areas. Mussar originated in the 10th century and remains a popular Jewish practice today; various institutes and organizations offer courses in its practice, and it is relatively easy to find one to suit your level of interest. I had heard of mussar but never knew exactly what it was, until I received a notice that a colleague of mine, a rabbi in Massachusetts, was starting a group to study mussar with other rabbis and cantors, using various technologies available today to connect us from all over the country: conference call phone lines, video chat, email to distribute texts, one-on-one phone calls to follow up study with one’s chevruta (study partner), and the ability to record the conferences for later reference or to catch up from an absence. With a group of 20 rabbis and cantors, something always manages to come up to disrupt the schedule, but between the recorded sessions and the somewhat-more-flexible chevruta appointments, we have managed to have a good number of sessions. Although I am a true beginner at this, I wanted to share one of the more meaningful lessons with you. The Jewish value (in Hebrew, middah) of “hakarat hatov,” or gratitude, literally means “recognizing the good.”

As part of hakarat hatov, one reminds oneself of the good one already has. For example, someone has a bad day at work. If one is practicing hakarat hatov, one might state one’s gratitude to simply have a job to which to go. Turning towards our tradition for inspiration in this area, in Pirkei Avot 4:1, there is a well-known quote: “Who is rich? Those who rejoice in their own lot.” Another quote which I find meaningful is attributed to the Radzimizer Rebbe: “One who crosses the sea and survives a storm thanks God. Why not thank God when there is no storm? One who survives an illness thanks God. Why not who escapes illness altogether?”

The exercise for this middah was astonishing: to write down 100 blessings, or things for which I am grateful, every day. The most astonishing part? There could be no repetitions. Imagine 100 completely unique things for which to be grateful, every day? I could have easily borrowed from our Jewish liturgy, which provides a prayer to give thanks for waking up each morning, and say that each day I am thankful for having woken up. But alas, that would mean a lot of repetition. This exercise seemed to be the antithesis of “fixed” prayer. Each day had to entail completely different blessings.

I have heard that going about this exercise has changed people to their core. That once negative, glass-half-empty people have become glass-half-full positive ones. What an easy recipe for happiness. Simply remind oneself of a little, unique thing for which one is grateful, take 100 doses of that “pill” per day, each day, and voilá! Perhaps it isn’t quite so simple, but the idea is certainly intriguing to me. It is one of the many middot which I am working on, and will continue to work on. I consider it a sort of professional development, therapy, and spa-day-like “me”-time, rolled into one. When I mentioned I was studying mussar to our monthly Rosh Chodesh group at the temple, I was pleasantly surprised to hear that a member of the group had done mussar extensively and was a far greater expert on the subject than myself. The group expressed interest in mussar and set a session on it for our November meeting. I am so grateful to have mentioned it, so that now many more will benefit from learning of this fascinating topic.

Postscript: We live in the age of the internet and social media, which influences us all so greatly. I was struck when I noticed how many people I know on Facebook who post about blessings each day, and “tag” these posts with the term “365gratitude.” A quick web search led me to sites from America to Australia, learning about those teaching and practicing gratitude in media and from written word to apps to photographs. One site mentioned the inspiration came from a nun’s teaching, which made me smile. For gratitude isn’t just a Jewish quality, nor is it even religious. I hope you all find gratitude in your days. I am grateful that you, my readers, have taken the time to read this. I am grateful for the gift of your trust and friendship. I am grateful to have had the courage to share this personal journey. I am grateful to have the ability to be a beginner at something. I am grateful to have the opportunity to grow.
LEADERSHIP

Leading the Way
Lisa Broomer, President

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Thanksgiving provided us an exciting opportunity for CBY to be a leader in the community and, as Thanksgiving is supposed to do, teach us that we are not alone in our struggles. I did not know that all of the major religious institutions in Armonk are going through some sort of leadership change. This left CBY as the only one with a clergy member who had experienced our community’s ecumenical service. Cantor Kobilinsky and Rabbi Katz were able to encourage the other institutions to continue this meaningful tradition. For those who could not attend, I can tell you that it was wonderful to again welcome our neighbors into our sanctuary and give thanks for the bountiful gifts we are blessed to have as a community.

This is not the only area where CBY is taking a leadership role. The response rate to our survey was off the charts with almost 50% of our adult congregants responding! This information is providing strong insights regarding what our members need from us as well as a treasure trove of information about the interests and skills our members have to offer to our community. Congregants have committed to 1,290 instances of engagement. We now have to complete our analysis and identify specific actions we will take in response. The Board has been discussing ways to be more creative and adaptive in the areas of programming, education and financing. The survey results will guide those discussions and allow us to determine the specific actions we can take now to ensure that our congregation explores new opportunities while also being respectful of our traditions.

We have had a great number of amazing events this Fall with over 100 people in our sanctuary to hear from Nicolas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, our high holy day food drive collected 1.577 pounds of food for those who are hungry. We talligated. We had latkas and shopped, raising over $10,000 for the temple. As the weather gets colder, our efforts will focus on those in need with a coat drive to be distributed during the midnight run on December 13. The next morning, our families can help those less privileged enjoy the holidays by wrapping gifts to be distributed to The Cottage School and Hope’s Door, both in Pleasantville, NY. We will host several homeless men and women in March instead of close to Thanksgiving as we have in the past few years.

Along with all of the exciting opportunities to learn, have fun and give back, we have some hard work to do this year. In some ways, that hard work is no different than other years...we need to take care of the financial stability of our congregation as well as the spiritual.

All gifts, no matter what size, are a strong statement of support for our activities from teaching our children to providing our less fortunate neighbors with sanctuary from the cold for a few days. Some members ask why we ask for money so often; why each event seems like an excuse to ask for donations. The answer is that like many synagogues in the New York metropolitan area, our dues and tuition do not cover our operating expenses. A permanent way to resolve this would be to create an endowment to supplement our income or to retire our mortgage to permanently reduce our expenses. Each time over the past 10 years that we began to plan a significant fund raising program, events have occurred which prevented us from launching such a campaign. It is my view that such a campaign will be necessary in the future, but will not be successful until we have a settled Rabbi and have reinvigorated our school. The good news is that the work required to accomplish these things is underway. The Rabbinic Search Committee has reviewed an initial set of applications. Initial interviews will begin in earnest over the coming weeks. We are also preparing our application to enter the search process for a director of our Jewish Identity Program. The survey results will provide both search committees with invaluable perspective to identify professionals who can move our community forward in meaningful ways.

While I look forward to welcoming new leaders to our community, I also want to recognize the leadership and stability Cantor Kobilinsky has provided our congregation throughout these years of change. I wait with great anticipation for the Gala to celebrate Cantor Kobilinsky’s 10th anniversary with the congregation. Please save the date: April 18, 2015.

On a personal note, I would like to let each and every one of you know that I understand your feelings of uncertainty as we undergo our search process for a new Rabbi and JID Director. In some ways, I share them. But I also know that we have an extraordinary group of dedicated members who are stepping forward and contributing their time and efforts to helping CBY move through these turbulent times. I assure you that our congregation is enduring and vibrant. If you are having concerns about your continued membership, please seek out a Board member and discuss your issues before you make your decisions. The Jewish home that brought you to CBY in the first place is still here for you, and is growing and developing into a stronger group that will continue to serve our community now, and far into the future.
The Great Chanukah Debate

Rabbi Joan Farber, Interim Director of Education

Having just completed the Midterm Elections, we know that debates can be volatile and counterproductive when politicians are involved. They only want the listeners to accept their opinions and to place a vote in their column. In the Talmud, debates serve a higher purpose as the rabbis involved explain their positions on ritual and halacha.

As we prepare for Chanukah, I want to look at one of those Talmudic debates between Hillel and Shammai. According to Masechet (Tractate) Shabbat 21b:

"Our sages taught: The mitzvah of Hanukkah is a candle for a man and his household, and those who enhance (mehadrin): a candle for each person. And those who really enhance (mehadrin min hamehadrin): Bet Shammai says: On the first day one lights eight and from then on one continues to decrease, and Bet Hillel says: On the first day one lights one and from then on one continues to increase."

To put it simply: Shammai teaches that we begin with a full chanukiyah (menorah) and decrease one candle each night and Hillel teaches that we begin with an empty chanukiyah and increase each night.

Visually, these are two very different practices and I think each have some validity. If you consider the story of the oil (as told in the Talmud), both opinions make sense.

According to the Talmud, the Maccabees discovered one cruse of oil which had been neither destroyed nor defiled. As they were preparing to rededicate the Temple, they did not think that the oil would be sufficient to light the Ner Tamid—the eternal lamp. But the oil lasted for a full eight days.

We could say that Shammai used the jar of oil as his starting point and by starting with a full Chanukiyah, he was symbolizing the oil slowly running out as it did in the Temple. Whereas Hillel was increasing the increased anticipation of how long the oil would last. Personally, I think that by following Hillel we are building to a climax of our celebration. As we increase the number of candles each night, we are increasing our family time, making new memories and increasing our joy.

May your homes be filled with light and joy.

Unique Campership Opportunities

Join Rabbi Farber and Greg Kellner, 6 Points Sci-Tech Director, on Sunday, February 8 to learn about Unique Camping Opportunities for your children this summer.

9:30 am: Eisner and Crane Lake presentation for campers entering 2nd-10th grade in Fall 2015

11:30 am: 6 Points Sci-Tech presentation & activity for campers entering 5th-10th grade in Fall 2015. At 6 Points Sci-Tech, campers can perform science demos, learn about new Israeli technology & make something explode.

$1,000 Incentive for First Time Campers.
Questions? Contact Rabbi Farber: (914) 273-2220, rabbifarber@cbyarmonk.org

CBY sent 10 campers to URJ Summer Youth Programs: Eisner, Crane Lake, and Six Points Sci-tech camps and NFTY in Israel in the Summer 2014.
CBY was thrilled to host a community-wide program on 10/28 where 7 Israeli soldiers from Tzahal Shalom led 5th-8th graders from across Northern Westchester in activities such as face painting, knot tying, team work, and boot camp.

**Adult Education**

**TEXT IN THE CITY** | Wednesdays at noon, 12/10, 1/14, 2/11, 3/11 12:00 p.m. at Pryor Cashman LLP, Times Square, NYC

**STUDY IN THE SUBURBS** | Wednesdays at noon, 12/17, 1/21, 2/25, 3/25, 4/15, 5/20 at Congregation B’nai Yisrael

**TORAH STUDY** | Saturdays, 9:00- 9:45 a.m.
A weekly opportunity every Shabbat morning in our library to discuss the week’s Torah portion with our clergy. Come every week or once in a while; all you need to bring is an open mind.

**ROSH CHODESH LUNCHEON & STUDY GROUP** | Fridays at noon once a month, 1/23, 2/13, 3/20, 4/17, 5/22
Rosh Chodesh is a special holiday where we find peace, enrichment, and sisterhood. At CBY we are a grassroots gathering of women who meet each Hebrew month to celebrate the new moon. We serve lunch and share in informal programs focusing on Jewish and/or women's

**For Our Young Families**

**TOT SHABBAT** | Fridays, 5:30-6:15 p.m.  12/12, 1/9, 2/6, 3/13, 4/10, 5/8
Tot Shabbat is a time for our children to experience Shabbat through storytelling and music with their parents. Our program is shared with our clergy and features the music, fun and excitement of Kenny Green.

**KINDERGARTEN** | Sundays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.  12/14, 1/25, 2/8, 3/22, 4/19, 5/3
Our Kindergarten program is an experience for the whole family to learn about the Jewish holidays, Jewish food, and Jewish living.

**1st AND 2nd GRADE PROGRAM** | Sundays, 9:30-10:15 a.m. (weekly), following our pancake breakfast at 9:00 a.m. for the whole family. Family Days: 12/14, 1/25, 2/8, 3/22, 4/19, 5/3
Our programs for young families are free and open to the community.
Mitzvot Weekend: Midnight Run & Chanukah Gift Giving Party

Midnight Run Saturday, December 13

Every year CBY participates in the Midnight Run program by providing food, clothing and toiletries for New York City's homeless. Join us in the Social Hall on Saturday, December 13 as we prepare for this year’s trip. This is a perfect opportunity for CBY families to help others in a very meaningful and direct way.

How Can You Help?

- Cook a hot meal at the temple
- Donate new or clean, gently used clothing and blankets
- Donate food for lunches
- Pack bag lunches and toiletries
- Organize donated new and used clothing
- Drive to the city to help distribute food, clothing and toiletries to the homeless

Chanukah Gift Giving Party Sunday, December 14, 11am (followed by latkes & lighting the menorah)

Support our Gift Giving Party by shopping for gifts and dropping them off at the temple the week prior to the party and/or coming with your children on December 14 to help them wrap gifts to give to children in need. Gift donations will go to The Cottage School, a residential treatment center for troubled youth, and Hope's Door, a domestic violence shelter, both located in Pleasantville, NY.

Suggested Gifts: Fashion jewelry, dolls, stuffed animals, arts and crafts kits and art supplies, sporting equipment (footballs, basketballs), lotions, toiletries (no glass/aerosol), handbags, wallets, backpacks, duffle bags, board games: checkers, chess, dominoes, cards, bath towels (large), twin bed sheet sets, twin comforters, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, jeans, winter coats, rain boots, PJs, slippers, hoodies/sweatshirts, sweaters, t-shirts, long sleeve shirts (small-XXL for both genders)

CBY at The Bristal

Lisa Mazure & Samantha Schwam, Caring and Social Action Committee Co-chairs

Every Friday afternoon congregants from CBY lead Shabbat services at The Bristal Assisted Living in Armonk. With help from Rabbi Katz and Cantor Kobilinsky we created a short relevant service that the residents really enjoy. After services we have challah and grape juice and sing Shabbat songs. During the holidays we had a great time with the residents celebrating Rosh Hashanah and Simchat Torah. It has been a wonderful partnership that is enjoyed by all. If you’re interested in getting involved contact Samantha Schwam or Lisa Mazure at socialaction@cbyarmonk.com.
High Holy Days Food Drive 5775

Our High Holy Day Food Drive was a tremendous success. We delivered more than 1,577 pounds of food to the Community Center of Northern Westchester.

Many thanks to everyone who donated so generously. A special thank you to the JID children who helped load the food into the cars; Samantha and Jonah Schwam; Brian, Alka, Tyler and Grayson Kaminer, and Tessa and Renner Kwittken who brought the food to the Community Center of Northern Westchester and helped stock their shelves.

28 lbs of school supplies, along with a monetary donation, was also dropped off at the center.

Coat Drive

Now through January

Each year we help our neighbors stay warm by collecting gently used, clean coats, mittens, sweaters, and scarves. Our families have an opportunity donate items, as well as hand them out to people in need during the Midnight Run.

Sleeping Bags Needed

Every year CBY participates in the Emergency Shelter Partnership which provides short term housing for local homeless during the winter months. For the upcoming winter the Partnership is in need of gently-used, adult size sleeping bags. Donations can be dropped off at CBY.

Upcoming Programs

SHOPPING FOR THE HUNGRY  Ongoing
We collect food weekly to donate to the Community Center of NW. Food donations can be dropped off at CBY at any time.

PAJAMA DRIVE  Now through January
To help our youngest neighbors in need stay warm in the winter we collect sleepwear, robes, socks and slippers for children, ages infant through 18 years. The Pajama Drive is also sponsored by the Community Center of NW.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PARTNERSHIP  March 2-8
For several years CBY has joined with the Emergency Shelter Partnership and is one of several religious organizations to help house the local homeless of Northern Westchester. For a week we provide cook hot meals and stay overnight with those in need.

KLEZMER CONCERT  May 7
Every year we host a Klezmer Concert for the Havorah Program of Westchester Jewish Community Services. The concert is a unique opportunity for people with developmental disabilities to experience Jewish life. Our families greet our guests and serve snacks, offering us an opportunity to interact and share a special evening with the disabled community in Westchester.

BLOOD DRIVE  Spring, Date TBD
CBY hosts an annual Blood Drive with the New York Blood Center.
High Holy Day Campaign

We are indebted to all the people who generously supported our community during this year’s High Holy Day Campaign. This campaign provides a significant portion of the funds needed to maintain and enrich our spiritual home. These gifts will have a profound impact on how well our temple can serve its members in the coming year. All donations, large and small are greatly appreciated. Below are the contributions to our Campaign as of December 2, 2014.

—The Board of Trustees

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Eric Goodison and Lisa Mazure
Adam and Alicia Ifshin

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Michael and Melanie Garfinkle
Alan and Stephanie Glazer
John and Marilyn Heimerdinger
Jeffrey and Olga Henick
Ross and Michelle Honig
Bernard and Shelly Jacob
Brian and Alka Kaminer
William and Penny Katz
Kenny and Kara Klein
Benjamin Poserow and Hayley Kobilinsky
Jeff and Joan Konigsberg
David and Janice Kravette
Jeffrey and Ivy Levien
Eric and Susan Levy
Bruce and Susan Pollack
Stuart and Ellen Rosenstein
Paul and Cathy Skurman
Todd and Andrea Soloway
William and Bonni Stanley

Contributors
Alan and Ilyse Bauer
Fran Bernard
Jeff and Leslie Blum
Cene Blumenthal
Bill and Deborah Charron
Neil and Hilary Chavkin
Fred and Marlene Cohen
Andy and Susan Cott
David Cziner and Leslie Blum
Larry and Sari Deutsch
Andy and Mychal Ertel
Perry and Diane Freedman
Gary Glauber and Deborah Cerar
Peter and Carol Gold
Bob Goldberg and Janice Yass Goldberg

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David and Rori Goldin
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Charlotte Gross
Jeff and Caryl Hahn
Len and Sandy Honig
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Paul and Linda Jacobs
Eric Kreutzer and Elyse Lazansky
Steve and Ann Leber
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Alex Margolin and Lana Bernstein
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Ron and Debbie Tobias
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David and Stacy Werner
Bob and Randi Wolchok
Earle and Beth Yaffa
Matthew and Amy Yallof

Amazon Smile

A new way our congregants can contribute to the CBY community in an ongoing manner is through the Amazon Smile program. Amazon Smile allows you to direct a portion of your eligible Amazon.com purchases to non-profits like CBY. Just click on the Amazon Smile link on the Amazon homepage and select Congregation B’nai Yisrael as your charity partner. Once you do this, 0.5% of every one of your eligible Amazon purchases will be donated to CBY.
Donations

**General Fund**
- Alan and Stephanie Glazer for thanks and appreciation to Rabbi Katz for the beautiful High Holy Day services
- Alan and Stephanie Glazer in loving memory of Susan Goldstein, Jeffrey and Caryl Hahn in memory of Leonard Hertzlich
- John and Marilyn Heimerdinger in memory of Miles Applebaum
- John and Marilyn Heimerdinger in appreciation for Cantor Kobilinsky’s beautiful and inspiring music during the High Holy Day services
- John and Marilyn Heimerdinger in appreciation of Rabbi Katz’s gracious and thoughtful conducting of the High Holy Day services
- Jordan and Abby Hollander in honor of Sydney’s baby naming
- Julian and Felice Ehrlich in memory of Isabelle Ehrlich
- Lothar Falk in honor of Rhonda Moll
- Mark and Pearl Vogel in memory of Miles Applebaum
- Norman and Carole Birenbaum in memory of Eric Leon
- Norman and Ilana Adler in memory of Sender Rahmani Gabin and Yefim Gabin
- Paul, Cathy and Skurman in loving memory of Miles Applebaum
- Earl and Beth Yaffa in memory of Louis, Beatrice and Michael Alan Yaffa
- Joel and Rise Samit in honor of Leah Winfeld’s bat mitzvah
- Andrew and Cynthia Winfeld in honor of their daughter, Leah’s, bat mitzvah

**Rabbi Katz’s Discretionary Fund**
- Melvin and Helene Shuter in honor of Felicia Zacks serving on B’nai Yisrael’s board
- William and Kathleen Dichter in memory of Stanley Dichter
- David and Bonnie Sacarny in memory of Muriel Newman
- Eric Goodison and Lisa Mazure in memory of Eileen Grodner and Caren Mazure, aunt and sister of Lisa Mazure
- Paul, Cathy and Peter Skurman in loving memory of Dorothy Mann
- William and Kathleen Dichter in memory of Stanley Dichter
- Mark and Pearl Vogel

**Cantor Kobilinsky’s Discretionary Fund**
- Alan and Stephanie Glazer for thanks and appreciation to Hayley, Ron and choir for the splendid musical experience at High Holy Day services 2014
- David and Bonnie Sacarny in memory of Muriel Newman
- Eric Goodison and Lisa Mazure in memory of Eileen Grodner and Caren Mazure, aunt and sister of Lisa Mazure
- Paul, Cathy and Peter Skurman in loving memory of Dorothy Mann
- William and Kathleen Dichter in memory of Stanley Dichter
- Mark and Pearl Vogel

**Rabbi Krantz’s Discretionary Fund**
- David and Bonnie Sacarny in memory of Muriel Newman

Tree of Life
*Leaves have been placed on our Tree of Life in honor of*
- Tyler Miller • Bar Mitzvah • November 1, 2014
- Olivia Tantleff • Bat Mitzvah • November 9, 2013

Memorial Wall
Our Memorial Wall and Garden allows our community to memorialize our loved ones and to place a stone by their names at times of remembrance. For more information, please contact the temple office at (914) 273-2220, temple@cbyarmonk.org.

FAMILY ACTIVITY

**Kids in the Kitchen**
Let your children enjoy the gift of giving by helping to make these delicious Hanukkah candies for family and friends.

**Cooking Equipment Needed**
- Double Boiler
- Measuring Spoons
- Measuring Cups
- Wax Paper
- Spatula
- Cookie cutters or top of a spice jar

**Ingredients**
- 1 pound of confectioners powdered sugar
- 1 pound piece of chocolate
- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 4 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

**HANUKKAH GELT**
**Directions**
1. Combine all ingredients in a double boiler
2. Place over simmering water and stir until smooth
3. Spread quickly into a buttered or wax paper-lined cookie sheet
4. Cool
5. Using Hanukkah cookie cutter, a plastic lid or top of spice jar, cut circles of fudge
6. Lift out with the metal spatula and wrap in foil to resemble coins
7. Store in the refrigerator
To advertise in our quarterly Bulletin, contact Alicia in the temple office at (914) 273-2220, alicia@cbyarmonk.org.
Save the Date

Text in the City  | Wednesdays, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 11 12:00 p.m. in NYC
Midnight Run  | Saturday, December 13
Chanukah Gift Giving Party  | Sunday, December 14 • 11:00 a.m.
Study in the Suburbs  | Wednesdays, December 17, January 21, February 25, March 25, 12:00 p.m. at CBY
Tu B'Shevat Family Seder  | Wednesday, January 15, 6:00 p.m.
Rosh Chodesh Luncheon and Study Group  | Fridays, January 23, February 13, March 20, 12:00 p.m.
Camperships Presentation  | Sunday, February 8, 9:30 a.m.
Emergency Shelter Program  | Monday, March 2-Sunday, March 8
Purim Celebration  | Sunday, March 8, 11:00 a.m.
Gala honoring Cantor Kobilinsky and Fred and Barby Siegel  | Saturday, April 18

Visit our website at cbyarmonk.org for a full calendar of programs and events.