


MARCH, 2023 / ADAR - NISSAN, 5783

# *The Shofar*





The Jewish Center of the Moriches  
TEMPLE BOARD AND SPIRITUAL LEADER

The Jewish Center of the Moiches invites members of the congregation to contact them with ideas, opinions, questions, concerns, and offers of help. Please join us at the monthly board meetings—we'd love your input! Currently, board meetings are being held via Zoom.

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*President:*

Tracy Kolsin

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# *A Letter from our President*

Dear JCM Community,

I am grateful and humbled to introduce myself as the new president for the Jewish Center of the Moriches. I will be taking over from Michael Leselrod, who, in the nine years he served our congregation, has brought JCM into the present. We have faced unprecedented challenges in this time, and Mike steered us successfully through them. As president, I would like to keep JCM on this path of progress. We have a lot of work to do in strengthening our community ties and increasing the size of our congregation.

My experience in working in local town governments has given me knowledge in developing relationships and problem-solving challenges. As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker through New York State, I have also been trained in conflict resolution, community planning, youth development, senior and disability needs, and illicit substance use prevention, among other disciplines. These skills have helped me better understand people's needs from a variety of backgrounds. I plan to use these skills to help transform JCM into a solid institution that is secure financially and is well-respected in the community.

I am also excited to be working alongside our new spiritual leader, Rabbi Margie Cella. Rabbi Cella, who will be starting this month, knows our community very well. She was a math teacher at Southampton High School for twenty-five years before she retired in 2014. She then chose to follow her spiritual beliefs and become a rabbi. She graduated from the Jewish Theological Seminary and was ordained in 2019. Rabbi Cella is eager to start working with our synagogue and getting to know our congregation.

If you ever have any suggestions or questions, I am always available to listen.

-Tracy



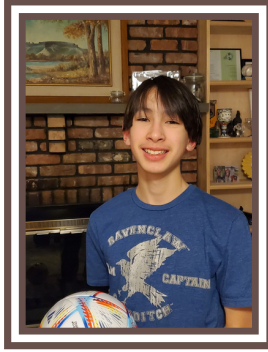
## *Member Spotlight* *Jack Fingerhut*

Jack Fingerhut, our oldest and longest tenured member of our congregation, graciously submitted to an interview with our Hebrew School students on February 5.

Our Hebrew School students asked Mr. Fingerhut about his life and longtime affiliation with JCM. He regaled them with stories about life on the farms that formerly existed in Center Moriches, his experience as a Army soldier in World War 2, and his secrets for living a long life. Jack, who is 100 years old, even told the students about the way milkfat, known in Yiddish as "pflecka", used to accumulate at the top of a bottle of milk on a cold day. Having an easygoing attitude and an ability to get along with most people were two of his tips to our students.

The conversation, which was moderated by Ari Schneider, also offered senior congregants an opportunity to spend time with a JCM member whose affiliation with the synagogue predates our current building.

Who knows... one of our current Hebrew School students may be interviewed in the year 2113 by a future congregant when they turn 100. How our congregation and Center Moriches will look some 90 years from now is anyone's guess.



## *Bar Mitzvah Spotlight*

### Darren Heitman

Darren William Heitman, whose Hebrew name is Devahn Ben Yakov Ben Levi, will be celebrating his bar Mitzvah on May 13, 2023. He is an avid soccer player, playing on the William Floyd Middle School team and on an outside team as well. He plays the position of striker, but when he first started, he thought he wanted to be a goalie.

Darren has been playing the drums since elementary school, and often accompanies the Hebrew school students when needed. He also enjoys playing a lot of video games, but has no particular favorite.

Darren attends Boy Scouts (Troop 29) through the East Moriches fire department. Through Boy Scouts, he has performed a good amount of community service. He also enjoys helping out at the temple, volunteering his time to set up for the rummage sale and special events.

When asked "Will you be doing anything special after your Bar/Bat Mitzvah", Darren responded with, "I would like to have a party with friends." Also, Darren doesn't have any pets, but he hopes to get a dog some day.

Darren's parents, Jennifer and Joel, along with his older brother Max, are very proud of Darren and the strides he has made in Hebrew school and in his daily life. JCM wishes him the best!



## *Bar Mitzvah Spotlight* Ian Ross Besser

On April 1, 2023, JCM will be celebrating the Bar Mitzvah of Ian Besser. Cantor Erica Rubin, one of our past spiritual leaders, will be returning to JCM to officiate.

Ian, whose Hebrew name is Yochanan, will be joined by his father, David, his mother, Debbie, his brother Jacob, and his grandmother, Ruth. They will be having a party after to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Ian, a seventh-grader at Westhampton Beach Middle School, enjoys playing tennis, volleyball, and basketball. He has one pet, a labradoodle named Hero.

Ian and his family are very happy that their grandmother, Ruth, is traveling from Florida to attend Ian's Bar Mitzvah and to spend Passover with them. Nana Ruth is a Holocaust survivor, as was her late husband "Papa Sam". After the war, they met each other in a disposition camp in Germany. The family is thrilled that she will be joining them.

Congratulations, Ian!

# Your Safety Is JCM's Concern

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In an effort to improve our security profile, recent upgrades have been made by the Temple Board, in co-operation with our Building and Grounds Committee. These upgrades will enhance the safety and security for our congregation and guests. Some projects have been completed, while a few more are in the planning stages. One of the significant upgrades already accomplished is the replacement of all door locks and exit hardware - this not only makes the entrances more secure, but also meets the building code for emergency exiting.

We are planning on having a general meeting in the next couple of months where we can discuss all the enhancements. In addition, we will schedule a training session with the security representative from the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). The JCRC has already done a security assessment evaluation of our building and grounds, which is a service they provide for synagogues.

It is not something we like to talk about, but unfortunately, in the current environment, the risk of anti-semitic attacks and violence is at an all-time high. In conjunction with the JCRC, we are developing some safety protocols and procedures for our synagogue in relation to these risks. Their presentation will point out those risks and suggest actions to take in each situation. Of course, the JCRC's suggestions can also apply to our lives outside of the synagogue as well.

**We encourage you to attend this meeting as everyone can benefit greatly from it!** We will circulate more information when the meeting is scheduled.

In the meantime, if you have any questions on our security situation, please contact Jeff Pribut.



*March, 2023*

*The following are names of individuals whose yahrzeits are memorialized by plaques in the sanctuary and the dates of the Friday evening services on which their yahrzeits will be observed and Kaddish recited in their memory:*

March 3	Clara Nooger Joseph Loeb Benjamin Witt Victor Berkowitz Maybelle Michaels Regina Heller
March 10	Jack Eskell Max Stekelman Rose Weissman Philip Kuhl
March 17	Adelaide Bodow Helene James Irma Seides Paul Hegeman
March 24	Abraham Heller Kate Olewach Lillian Reiss
March 31	Eugene Forsch Isadore Swire Rosalind Edel Norman Stein Joseph Stein

*Worshippers who are observing a yahrzeit and who would like any additional name mentioned at the time of Kaddish are asked to present that name in writing to the Cantor prior to the service.*

*“The memory of the righteous is a Blessing”*





*April, 2023*

*The following are names of individuals whose yahrzeits are memorialized by plaques in the sanctuary and the dates of the Friday evening services on which their yahrzeits will be observed and Kaddish recited in their memory:*

April 14	Florence Hirschenfang Suellen Shakin Saul Bell William Glazer Alexander Weiss Edward H. Loeb William Bernard Shakin
April 21	Abraham Bernstein Honey Ringe Ben Berkowitz David Makransky
April 28	Ida Kirsch Edith Weiss Tillie Scharf Selma Kiss Hyman S. Goldstein Meyer Reiss

*Worshippers who are observing a yahrzeit and who would like any additional name mentioned at the time of Kaddish are asked to present that name in writing to the Cantor prior to the service.*

*“The memory of the righteous is a Blessing”*



*May, 2023*

*The following are names of individuals whose yahrzeits are memorialized by plaques in the sanctuary and the dates of the Friday evening services on which their yahrzeits will be observed and Kaddish recited in their memory:*

May 5	Abraham Levine Charles Kirsch
May 12	Ida Michaels Elsa Bonvillain Morris Weissman Solomon Levine Loyal Witt
May 19	Thelma Loeb Herbert Kronman Ben Kiss
May 26	Florence Pearlman Raye Glaser

*Worshippers who are observing a yahrzeit and who would like any additional name mentioned at the time of Kaddish are asked to present that name in writing to the Cantor prior to the service.*

*“The memory of the righteous is a Blessing”*

# Hebrew School Happenings!

## *Mordy Potter and the Philosopher's Bagel*

Purim was a win this year with the JCM Hebrew school students performing "Mordy Potter and the Philosopher's Bagel", a rendition of the Book of Esther, Harry Potter style. Morah Ilyse outdid herself putting together a fun, wonderful play, and the students, with a little help from student leader Aaron (as Voldemort), did a great job! This was followed by Rabbi Margie's reading from the Megillah, and then a carnival!



# upcoming events

**Passover - Second Seder:** Thursday, April 6, 5:30 PM

Come out and eat, pray, drink wine, sing, and listen to stories from the Haggadah. **PLEASE RSVP WITH FLYER ON NEXT PAGE BY MARCH 26, 2023.** (Contact Farra Isaacson with any questions)

**Next Book Club:** Sunday, May 21 at 10am

We will be reading "The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem" by Sarit Yishai-Levi. All are welcome!



## Upcoming Bar Mitzvahs

Saturday, April 1st - Bar Mitzvah of Ian Besser

Saturday, May 13th - Bar Mitzvah of Darren Heitman

Saturday, July 29th - Bar Mitzvah of Ari Schneider

Saturday, August 12 - Bar Mitzvah of Cain Church

Saturday, September 23rd - Bar Mitzvah of Maurice Allen

Saturday, November 4th - Bar Mitzvah of William Sultan

## *Sponsor an Oneg!*

Want a nice way to celebrate a special birthday, an anniversary, or a graduation? Would you like to memorialize a loved one around the time of their yahrzeit? Consider sponsoring an erev Shabbat Friday night oneg. Challah, wine, grape juice and basic snacks are provided by the Jewish Center. You can add additional "special treats" (certified kosher, please), or flowers if you like. Leave a message at the general temple phone number, and Sherry Schwartz or another Familyhood member will get back to you.



# Passover 2<sup>nd</sup> Night Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023



The Jewish Center will be hosting a Passover dinner on **Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30pm.

For members: Adults are \$36.00 and children 5 to 12 are \$22, under 5, no charge.

For non-members and guests: Adults are \$42, children 5-12 \$28.00, under 5, no charge.

For information email [jewishcenterofthemoriches@gmail.com](mailto:jewishcenterofthemoriches@gmail.com)

Reservations must be made by **March 26<sup>th</sup>** by sending your check made out to the Jewish Center of the Moriches to:

Jewish Center of the Moriches  
Att: Farra Isaacson  
PO Box 127  
Center Moriches NY 11934.

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## Reservation Form:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Adults \$36.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Children up to age 12 \$22.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Non Member Adult \$42.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Non Member Children \$28.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Upcoming Services & Events

\*Please note: if there are any changes to these dates, an email and robo-call will be sent out .

2023

MARCH		APRIL		MAY		JUNE	
1		1	9:30am Morning Service	1		1	
2		2		2		2	
3	7:30pm Shabbat Service	3		3		3	9:30am Morning Service
4		4		4		4	9:00am Hebrew School
5	9:00am Hebrew School	5		5	7:30pm Shabbat Night Service	5	
6		6	5:30pm Passover Second Night	6		6	
7		7	7:30pm Shabbat Night Service	7	9:00am Hebrew School	7	
8		8		8		8	
9		9		9		9	7:30pm Shabbat Service
10		10		10		10	
11	9:30am Morning Service	11		11		11	
12		12		12		12	
13		13		13	Darren Heitman's Bar Mitzvah	13	
14		14		14		14	
15		15	9:30am Morning Service	15		15	
16		16	9:00am Hebrew School	16		16	
17		17		17		17	9:30am Morning Service
18		18		18		18	
19	9:00am Hebrew School	19		19	7:30pm Shabbat Night Service	19	
20		20		20		20	
21		21	6:30pm Family Service	21	9:00am Hebrew School/ Book Club	21	
22		22		22		22	
23		23	9:00am Hebrew School	23		23	6:30pm Family Service
24	6:30pm Family Service	24		24		24	
25		25		25		25	
26	9:00am Hebrew School	26		26	6:30pm Family Service	26	
27		27		27		27	
28		28		28		28	
29		29	9:30am Morning Service	29		29	
30		30	9:00am Hebrew School	30		30	
31				31			

## *Thank You, Donors!*

- Pauline & Lisa Randall Kol nidre
- Mark & Barbara Wolff Kol nidre
- Stuart & Hope Ringe IMO Father William Ringe
- Steve & Sherry Schwartz IMO Ellen Jane Schwartz, Alfred Schwartz
- Martin & Pamela Edel IMO Father Sidney Edel
- Barbara & Alan Gurien Kol nidre
- Gwen & Morton Stark IMO Mother Lillian Levine
- Robin Dinerstein IHO Cantor Susanne
- David James IMO Grandmother, Rose Rudnetsky, Aunt Lillian Rudnetsky, Great-grandfather Philip Rudnetsky, Great-grandfather David Zion, Great-grandmother, Yetta Zion
- Jeff Pribut Kol nidre
- The Sheren Family IMO Mother Emilie Sheren
- Jeffrey Kussoy Kol nidre
- Larry & Barbara Kiss General donation
- Barry Cohen Kol nidre
- Marlene Bieler IMO Father Rueben
- Judy Hean IMO Uncle Murray Bernstein, IHO Chanukah Committee, IMO All Ukrainians who have sacrificed their lives.
- Elaine Bernstein Kol nidre
- Judy Steinberg IMO Bruce M. Steinberg
- Judy Minkin IMO Grandmother
- Marty & Lorraine Robinson IMO Mother Juliette
- David James IMO Grandfather Jacob Rudnetsky
- Lawrence & Theresa Waxman "Memoriam"
- Rick Foster IMO Father Joseph Foster, Mother Ann Foster
- Mort & Gwen Stark IMO Brother Bennett Stark
- Mort & Gwen Stark IHO Michael Leselrod
- Betsy Reiss Mervis IMO Brother Jamie Stark
- Steven & Barbara Summer General donation
- Stuart & Janet Bossert IHO Michael Leselrod
- Mark & Joyce Schweibish General donation
- Mort & Gwen Stark IHO Jack Fingerhut's 100th birthday
- Jack Fingerhut General donation
- Stu & Janet Bossert IHO Jack Fingerhut's 100th birthday
- David James IMO Mother Helene James
- Marilyn Zoilo IMO Michael Fisher
- Judy Hean IMO Grandfather Harry Bernstein

**Want to see your name on the donor list?**

**JCM has many opportunities for you to honor or memorialize that special person or pet:**

**Tree of Life, Joyous Events Plaque, Yizkor Memorial Plaque, Pet Memorial Plaque, Plant a Tree in Israel. Contact Janet Bossert for details at 631-909-8821.**

**Your generous donations ensure that JCM is here for all of us.**

# *Volunteer Opportunities at JCM*

*Our community thrives when we all pitch in to help!*

*An \* means that JCM is currently looking for volunteers to help with these tasks.*

## **\*Hebrew School**

Coordinate with teachers and parents to make sure Hebrew School runs smoothly.

## **Cemetery Committee**

The JCM owns cemetery plots in Mt Pleasant Cemetery. These plots are for sale and occasionally someone contacts us to sell back their plot. Selling back plots involves the owner mailing the deed back, and coordinating with JCM's treasurer to send a check to the plot seller. Buying or selling back plots are fairly rare occurrences; usually this comes up once a year.

## **Newsletter Team**

Create the "Shofar Newsletter", email it to the printer, pick it up from the printer, mail it. Newsletter format mostly stays the same with each issue. JCM is currently producing four newsletters per year, with one person acting as "editor" (collecting and/or writing newsletter content), another person doing graphic design, and a third person picking up the printed newsletter from the photocopy shop and mailing the newsletters.

## **\*Membership Liaison**

Talk to prospective members when they contact the Jewish Center with questions: explain our programs, services, Hebrew School, and member pricing. This person is the "welcoming contact" that interacts with prospective members.

## **\*Ritual Committee**

Works with the Spiritual Leader to integrate traditional Jewish practices, guidelines, and prayers into Shabbat and festival services, life cycle events, and other JCM activities. Endeavors to make JCM's religious atmosphere welcoming, inclusive, and accessible.

## **Sunshine Committee**

Contacts sick/hospitalized members and sends condolences on behalf of the JCM community.

## **\*Phone "Keep in Touch" Committee**

JCM is looking for a few additional people to join Judy Hean in making "keep in touch" phone calls to community members. Each committee member will be given a list of people to contact on an occasional basis.



# *Volunteer Opportunities at JCM*

*Our community thrives when we all pitch in to help!*

*An \* means that JCM is currently looking for a volunteer for this volunteer role.*

## **Building and Grounds Committee**

When there is an issue at the JCM that needs fixing, such as the heat or electric, the Building and Ground committee arranges the repair.

## **\*Sanctuary Committee**

The sanctuary committee deal with any issues that are in the actual sanctuary, such as upkeep, renovations, new chairs, etc.

## **\*Correspondence Committee**

Responds to mail, sends thank you cards for donations.

## **\*Website**

Manages the JCM website.

## **\*General Board Members**

Attend monthly board meetings (currently being held via Zoom); participate in guiding policy and making decisions about synagogue operations.

# YOUR AD HERE!

The Jewish Center is once again offering the opportunity to place an advertisement in the Shofar, our quarterly newsletter. Ads can be run for a single issue, or for the year; advertisers need not be connected with JCM...if you know a business who might be interested in placing an ad, please share this information with them. The Shofar is printed and mailed to members and non-member families, and is also posted on the JCM website.

## Prices for 4 quarterly issues:

Full page: \$300

Half page: \$150

Quarter page: \$75

## Prices for single issue:

Full page: \$100

Half page: \$50

Quarter page: \$25

You may submit your own ad, or we can help create an ad for you. Payment can be made via the JCM website, or by mailing a check. Ads can be emailed. Need more information? Contact the synagogue at [jewishcenterofthemoriches@gmail.com](mailto:jewishcenterofthemoriches@gmail.com) or leave a message at 631-878-0388.

Mailing address: PO Box 127, Center Moriches, NY 11934.

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE...**

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- **An introduction from our new president, Tracy Kolsin, and a welcome to our new spiritual leader, Rabbi Margie Cella**

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**Address corrections requested**