

THE SHOFAR

SEPTEMBER 2024



Congregation B'nai Israel

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Come Join Us!

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES – 8 PM
SATURDAY MORNING SERVICES – 9:30 AM

“Pearls of Wisdom”



Our Rabbi writes....

A cursory glance at our calendar tells us that fall has arrived, hopefully confirmed by a drop in temperature. However, the Jewish calendar, informing us that the month of Elul, the month of preparation leading up to the High Holidays, has a more powerful message for us.

The Hebrew letters that spell Elul, also spell out an acrostic which translates into “I am my Beloved’s and my Beloved is Mine”. Elul contains the message of the urgency to draw close to G-d, our Beloved Creator.

Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzatto, the Ramchal, a great philosopher, encapsulates in one paragraph the whole point of our existence, and in doing so gives us an answer. In his book, *The Way of God* (1:4:6) he writes, "The root purpose of the service of God is for the human being to constantly turn to his Creator, to realize that he was created for the sole purpose of being drawn close to his Creator...." Everything that happens to us in this world is for one reason and one reason alone: to get closer to the Almighty, to feel that I am for my Beloved and my Beloved is for me. The Jew understands that everything God does is for our good; it is an expression of His love. Every judgment He renders – whether a windfall or a bankruptcy – is exactly what we need to grow closer to Him. The key is recognizing G-d's presence in our lives.

If you truly want to prepare for Rosh Hashanah, use this month to search every corner of your life and appreciate that G-d is present in so many different ways. If we can see the hand of G-d in the events of our life, we are ready for the Days of Awe that fast approach.

If you're missing Rabbi Pearl's weekly Friday night sermon, you're missing (1) his opening joke; (2) his discussion of how the week's Torah reading is relevant to our lives today; (3) his inspirational blessing; and (4) our lively discussions & delicious treats at the Oneg. Services are one hour; congregation participation is welcome & rewarding.

Friday Night Candle Lighting
Sept 6th at 7:02 pm
Sept 13th at 6:50 pm
Sept 20th at 6:38 pm
Sept 27th at 6:26 pm

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
By Marty Eisenberg



I hope that everyone had an enjoyable safe summer. As fall approaches, we prepare for cooler weather, and what lays ahead. At the synagogue, we are preparing for the High

SISTERHOOD UPDATE

Laurie Raps
Recording Secretary

Sisterhood met on August 19, 2024. Our book club selection is *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride. We discussed getting security for Shabbat but the choices were very expensive. We got a proposal to do a partial fix of the parking lot, as a complete fix would be very expensive. We discussed doing the honey project for Rosh Hashanah. Susan, Sandy and Laurie were on the committee. We would appreciate any help from our members. Our next meeting will be on September 16th, 2024 at 8:00 P.M. on Zoom.

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, September 21, 2024
Memorial Luncheon

Congregation B'nai Israel will be honoring many beloved members who have passed away in recent years. This tribute will be held at a luncheon following Shabbat services on Saturday, September 21, 2024. Please RSVP to Susan Finkelstein at 718-987-8188 if you plan to attend. Among those we will be remembering are Sandy Berger, Joel & Nancy Cohen, Michael Dovdavany, Bette Goldstein, Stuart Goldstein, Jerry Hauser, Richard Jensen, Norman Kanter, Roger Lader, Norman Levine, Sheldon Lynn, Diane Schwartz and Barbara Smith.

CONGRATULATIONS



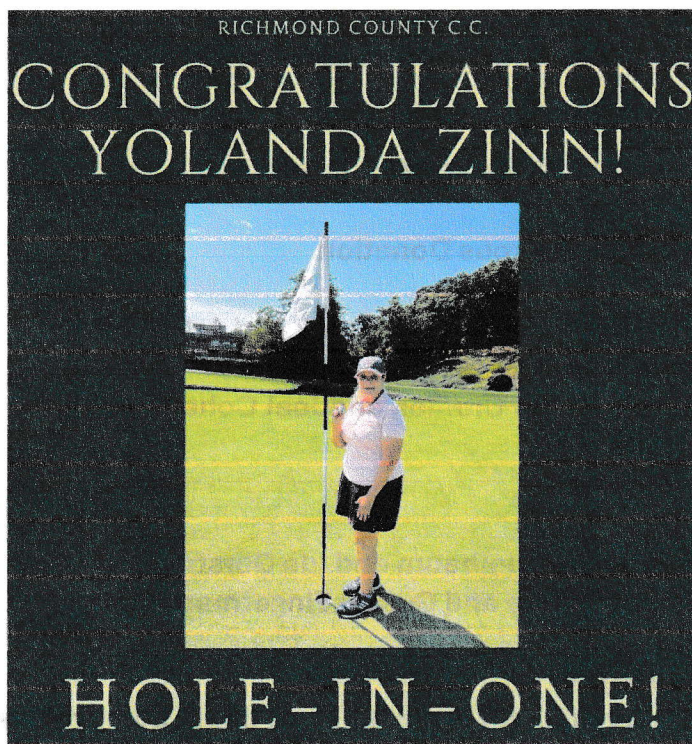
Family News:

Mazel Tov to **Harris Schwartz** & family on the engagement of **Alexa Schwartz** to **Michael Katz**.

Mazel Tov to **Dr. Gary & Maxine Spierer** on the upcoming Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, **Andrew Spierer**, which will be held on Saturday, September 21st. Andrew is the son of **Craig & Lauren Spierer** and the grandnephew of **Yolanda & Larry Zinn**.

Sporting News:

Golf reigned supreme in August as sisters **Maxine Spierer & Yolanda Zinn** each scored a Hole-in-One. On August 6th, Maxine Spierer had her 4th Hole-in-One (yes, 4th!). Wow!!! About three weeks later, on August 25th, Yolanda Zinn had her 1st Hole-in-One (truly a miracle!) See the amazing photo below which was taken after Yolanda finished screaming & crying. Neither Maxine nor Yolanda was contacted by any big-name sports company concerning sponsorships 😞.



Celebrating September Birthdays

On September 12th, **Rita Hauser** will be celebrating the 16th birthday of her eldest great-granddaughter, **Julie**.



Please let our editor know your birthday (month & day are sufficient. We don't require the year unless you want to brag!). Also, send anniversaries or other milestone events. We love noting happy occasions. Information can be emailed to oceanview@si.rr.com.

Thank You for Your Generous Donation

**Kevin and Michelle Brosnick in memory of Leonard Brosnick and Arthur Levy
Vlad and Lilya Cohen
Ana Cramer in memory of Ninia Besen, Zelda Cramer, and Joel Cohen
Linda Fisch in memory of Robert Davidson
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Jack and Laverne Gerner
Arlene Gerstman in memory of Theodore Appelbaum and Ida Gerstman
Estelle and Joel Goldberg in memory of Philip and Gussie Fingerman
Gary Gordon
Gladys Graham in memory of Sala Ziegler
Charles and Ilene Greinsky in memory of Sarah Greinsky and Miriam Sue Greinsky
Rita Hauser in memory of Lil Hauser
David and Laurie Raps in memory of Louis Raps, Irwin Rosenblum, and Laura Koser
Judith and Paul Rosen in memory of Harry Zuniss
Svetlana and Yakov Taslitsky**

CLLD PARTICIPANTS

Come Join us for “Understanding the High Holidays”

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the two most important religious holidays of the Jewish year, are complex both in observance and in the spiritual messages underlying these holy days. While it is impossible to cover everything in one session, together through discussion and explanation, expand our knowledge of the synagogue and home practices of these days, and the special messages and meanings that make the High Holidays so powerful for all of us.

Friday September 20th 10:00am-11:00am

Location: Presidents Room

Instructor: Rabbi Pearl



Yahrzeits for September 2024

Hebrew Date/ 2024 Date*	Yahrzeit of	Member	Relationship to Member
1 Elul Sept 4	Louis Raps	David Raps	Father
4 Elul Sept 7	Helen Hoffnung	Harris Schwartz	Diane's Grandmother
5 Elul Sept 8	Sam Hauser	Rita Hauser	Father-in-law
7 Elul Sept 10	Shlomo Klainmine	Betty Jensen	Father
9 Elul Sept 12	Nathan Preiser	Gloria Hirsch	Father
9 Elul Sept 12	Harry Braunstein	Janice Rappaport	Father
10 Elul Sept 13	Bernard Greenglass	Sharon Pekuly	Father
10 Elul Sept 13	Leon Kullback	Yolanda Zinn Maxine Spierer	Father
15 Elul Sept 18	Anna Preiser	Gloria Hirsch	Mother
17 Elul Sept 20	Miriam L. Sklar	Ira Sklar	Mother
18 Elul Sept 21	Mark Cramer	Ana Cramer	Husband
24 Elul Sept 27	David Morrison	Aviva Levine	Father
25 Elul Sept 28	Aaron Steingart	Stuart Suss	Father-in-law
25 Elul Sept 28	Sala Zeigler	Gladys Graham	Mother
26 Elul Sept 29	Irwin Rosenblum	Laurie Raps	Father
27 Elul Sept 30	Gladys Greenglass	Sharon Pekuly	Mother

*Yahrzeits begin on the evening before the given date. If you need to say Kaddish for a Yahrzeit, please call the office two weeks before and we will try to assemble a Minyan, most often via Zoom. It would be helpful if you have a few family members or friends attend the services to ensure there is a Minyan. For additions or corrections to this list, please contact Laurie Raps at 718-967-4975 or spar1012@aim.com.

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From your editor...

If you have any noteworthy dates, events or information for the Shofar, please let me know. My email is oceanview@si.rr.com. Have a wonderful September and see you at our many events. With warmest regards,

Yolanda

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HIGH HOLY HOLIDAYS RESERVATION FORM

(PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

GUESTS OF FAMILY (List additional names and addresses on back of sheet,)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

	<u>HOW MANY</u>		<u>TOTALS</u>
FAMILY MEMBERS (MAXIMUM OF 2)	_____	@ \$100.00 EACH	_____
PARENTS OF MEMBERS	_____	@ \$100.00 EACH	_____
ADULT CHILDREN OF MEMBERS (OUT OF COLLEGE)	_____	@ \$100.00 EACH	_____
CHILDREN OF MEMBERS	_____	@ \$ 36.00 EACH	_____
		TOTAL	_____

NON-MEMBERS _____ (@ \$200.00 EACH _____)

NON-MEMBERS CHILDREN (17 OR YOUNGER) _____ @ \$ 72.00 EACH _____

TOTAL _____

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN PRAYER BOOKS. WE DO NOT SUPPLY ANY PRAYER BOOKS.

HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYER BOOKS CAN BE BOUGHT FOR \$36.00 EACH. I WOULD LIKE TO BUY _____ BOOKS @ \$36.00 EA.
MEMORIAL PLAQUES ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$360.00 EACH FOR CBI MEMBERS AND \$540.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS.
"TREE OF LIFE" LEAVES ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$72.00 EACH. *PLEASE LIST INFORMATION ON BACK OF SHEET TO ORDER.*

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGES:

ROSH HASHANAH _____

KOL NIDRE _____

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

DUES	_____	\$ _____
SCHOOL	_____	\$ _____
TICKETS	_____	\$ _____
MEMORIAL PLAQUES	_____	\$ _____
TREE OF LIFE	_____	\$ _____
PRAYER BOOKS	_____	\$ _____
PLEDGES	_____	\$ _____
	TOTAL	\$ _____

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TO INCLUDE NAMES FOR THE GOLDEN BOOK, CHECK HERE _____ AND LIST ON BACK.