# REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

"And let them make for me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them."

EXODUS 25:8

VOLUME 80 NO. 3

CHESHVAN / KISLEV 5780

NOVEMBER 2019

THE REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER INVITES YOU AND FRIENDS TO ATTEND

### "THE GLOBAL DAY OF JEWISH LEARNING"

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 at 10:30 A.M.

### **"SPEAKING VOLUMES"**

Do words have the power to affect the world around us? How can we learn through disagreements? Moses was not a man of words? He did not consider himself a man of words. What does this teach us about leadership? What can Jewish texts teach us about the ways our words can cause harm?

### LET'S TALK!

"Hurling words toward Heaven": Hanna's prayer Explore how we can communicate with the divine. Her words and attitude a model for prayer.

### "NAMES MEANING MEMORY"

Why is it important to be remembered by name?

Come enjoy refreshments and add your voice to our Global Day of Jewish Learning.

Presenters: Rabbi Romiel Daniel & Maria Duron

### **REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER**

97-30 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, NY 11374 Telephone: (718) 459-1000 Fax: (718) 459-0431 Website: www.rpjc.org

Rabbi Romiel Daniel	Rabbi
Josiah Derby, M.A*	Rabbi Emeritus
Ruth Loewenstein	Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Rabbi Romiel Daniel	President

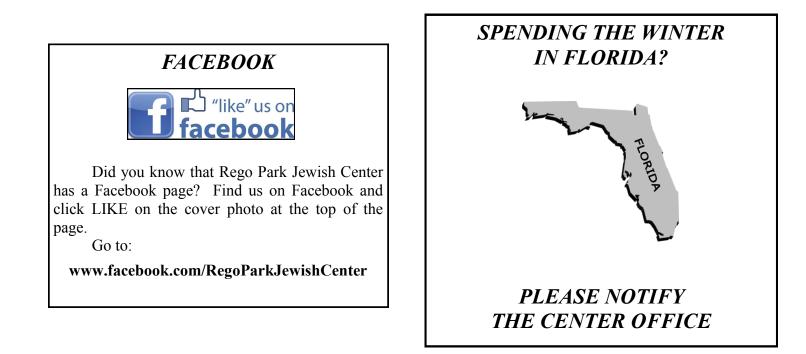
Sisterhood President Ruth Loewenstein

Sunday Breakfast Club & Learn-In President Rabbi Romiel Daniel

> Special Events Group Lee Lobel-Zwang

> > Yiddish Vinkel Pnina Lanxner

\* deceased



The Rego Park Jewish Center Bulletin is published 9 times/year (Sept. - June)

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

### MARCHESHVAN

Misconception: The complete and correct name for the month following Tishrei is Cheshvan, and it is a quaint tradition to call it Mar Cheshvan because it is bitter (Hebrew: *mar*) due to its lack of holidays.

Fact: The correct name for this fall month is the one word Marcheshvan/M'rachsh'van<sup>1</sup> (Aruch Hashulchan, Even Ha'ezer 126:17).

The current Hebrew month, Cheshvan, is classically referred to as Marcheshvan. The first two words spell the word mar. In Hebrew, this word means "bitter," which some homiletically connect to the fact that there are no special occasions that occur in this month. Even Av, the month when we mourn the destruction of the two Holy Temples, is not referred to as "bitter," because the sad days of the year offer us an opportunity for introspection, to contemplate where we have gone wrong. Thus, both the festive days and the negative days can be used to connect to spirituality. A month that is bereft of any significant days, even sad days, is more bitter than anything, because there are no moments that arise to give us pause.

Clearly, the month of Marcheshvan, or Bul, as its name suggests, is a month of darkness and decay. Indeed, the biblical Book of Kings cites Bul as the month when King Solomon completed the construction of the first Temple – though the dedication did not take place until a year later. Some explain that mar means "bitterness" (think of the maror we eat on Passover). The month is seen as a bitter for a number of reasons:

- Coming after the holiday-rich month of Tishrei, the month of Marcheshvan is devoid of any holidays.
- Sarah (and Rachel) passed away during this month.
- During the First Temple Era, when the Jewish nation split into two kingdoms, Jeroboam, king of the northern tribes, instituted a pagan holiday in the month of Cheshvan to counter the worship of  $G \square d$  that took place in Jerusalem, which was situated in the kingdom of Judah.

Cheshvan begins the extended time span between the last festival, Sukkot, and the next, Passover. In the meantime, the spiritual seeds planted during the Jewish month of Tishrei begin to take root – to be watered and to grow, finally appearing and bearing fruit in Nissan of next year.

The message of Cheshvan is that despite the darkness, and even because of the darkness, there is future growth that awaits us. We have the opportunity to nurture that right at this moment. It is now that we gather the seeds from the holidays of the month of Tishrei, plant them, and carefully water them through the winter months. With G-d's help, we will soon marvel at the beautiful spring bounty that we merit to cultivate.

Continued on page 4

"From the Rabbi's Desk" - continued from page 3

### Marcheshvan in Jewish history and tradition

- 11 Marcheshvan (circa 2105 BCE) Methuselah dies at age 969
- 11 Marcheshvan (circa 1553 BCE) Death of Rachel while giving birth to Benjamin
- 12 Marcheshvan (1995) Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin; now a national memorial day
- 15 Marcheshvan King Jeroboam's alternative feast of Sukkot for the people of the northern Kingdom (1 Kings 12:32-33)
- 15 Marcheshvan (165 BCE) Death of Matityahu (Mattathias), who began the Maccabean revolt in the city of Modiin
- 16 Marcheshvan (1938) Kristallnacht/Pogromnacht: 1,400 synagogues and numerous copies of the Tanakh are purposefully and systematically set on fire and allowed to burn in Nazi Germany
- 17 Marcheshvan (circa 960 BCE) First Temple completed by King Solomon (it was not inaugurated until the following Tishrei however)
- 23 Marcheshvan (137 BCE) Hasmonean holiday commemorating the removal from the Holy Temple of altar stones which were defiled by the Greeks

Rabbi Romiel Daniel

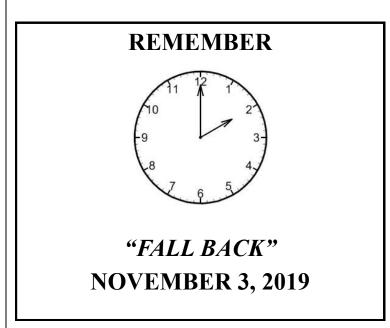
### SUNDAY BREAKFAST CLUB & LEARN-IN WITH THE RABBI

The holidays are over! Now, let us focus on a meaningful new year ahead of us.

What better way to deepen our understanding of Judaism and our friendships with our fellow congregants than attending the Breakfast Learn-In sessions!

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings.

Elaine Spodick





## FOCUS ON SISTERHOOD



Chesed means "kindness" even "loving kindness" to convey the deep love which animates Jewish acts of kindness done without thought of rewards. Thus for the new year of 5780, let us take Psalm 89 to heart and "may we build a world of kindness."

On Monday, November 18th at 12:15 P.M., our meeting day coincides with Jewish book month. We are most fortunate to have our own Mollie Alkana take us on a journey with The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit, written by his daughter Lucette Lagnado - the only survivor of the family and who recently passed away at a relatively young age. It is a memoir as well as an autobiographical work. Her father, the gentleman in the white sharkskin suit, is a prosperous Cairo businessman who often conducted his social affairs and business dealings at the famous Cairo Hilton. With the downfall of King Farouk, the status of the family's life changed completely from beauty and luxury to hardship and poverty. It truly becomes a history of a family and its faith, tragedy, traditions and triumph. They were forced to flee from Cairo to Paris and

YIDDISH VINKEL

Revive your Yiddish. Our Yiddish Vinkel meets most Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 P.M.

We speak Yiddish, read Yiddish stories and poems and sing Yiddish songs. Coffee and delicious cake are served. So come, enjoy warm friendship and have "fargeneegen."

Please note: depending on weather conditions, Yiddish Vinkel may not be meeting each and every Wednesday afternoon. Please phone the Center office on Wednesday mornings after 10:00 A.M. to confirm if Yiddish Vinkel will be meeting that day.

> Pnina Lanxner Yiddish Vinkel President

finally settled in Brooklyn, New York, where the family, instead of finding the American dream, sees their life become a heroic and tragic history of survival. Don't miss Mollie's wonderful interpretation and try to get the book at the library.

You see some of us wearing the beautiful new Chesed pin - it depicts a heart surrounded by three circles - one larger than the next. This symbolizes the heart of kindness which Jews enact in ever growing circles. More next month.

We want to thank those that were instrumental in making our October meeting in the Sukkah so successful: Rebbetzin Daniel for the program & planning - finally we have ushpizot as our guests; Elaine Spodick and Pnina Lanxner for shopping. Thanks also to Rabbi Daniel for giving us his Rabbinic touch. Finally and most importantly, thank you to Robin Basdeo for building a most beautiful Sukkot and for all his help.

Ruth Loewenstein

### THE KNITTING CIRCLE

invites you, your friends & neighbors for a pleasurable afternoon

#### **KNITTING & CROCHETING**

with

### Pnina Lanxner, Chairperson

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 P.M.

Come, meet new people, feel at home in our friendly group. Together we will make beautiful items for all seasons. Bring your needles and materials. Everyone welcome. \$2.00 - includes refreshments.

Note: Please call 718-459-1000 the morning of October 10th to confirm that the Knitting Circle will be meeting.

### SPECIAL EVENTS GROUP NEWS - REVIEWS

Lee Lobel-Zwang, Coordinator

### *TIME TO STUDY TORAH & MUSSAR* SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> at 12:30 P.M.

#### PARASHAT CHAYEI SARAH 23.1 - 25.18

Sarah lived to 127 years and then died. Abraham bought a burial cave for her in Machpelah. Abraham sent his servant Eliezer to his brother Nahor's house to find a wife for Isaac among his own people. Eliezer took his master's camels and made his way to Aram-Naharaim. They came to a well where he encountered Nahor's granddaughter Rebekah. He asked the maiden for a drink. She wanted also to give water to his camels. Finding her willing and worthy, he informed her of his mission. Rebekah said yes and Eliezer brought her back to marry Isaac. Then Abraham took a new wife Keturah and fathered six more sons.

#### HAFTARAT I KINGS 1.1 - 31

King David was now old, advanced in years. They covered him with bed clothes, he never felt warm - let a young virgin be sought for the king to wait upon him. They found Abishag the Shunemmite and brought her to the king. She was beautiful and became the king's attendant.

Presenters: Rabbi Romiel Daniel & Charles Lehat

### **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**



Jewish Book Month is an important annual event in both the American Jewish Community and the publishing world. It is sponsored by the Jewish Book Council and is held each year during the month of November.

In November we will be discussing <u>The Man in</u> <u>the White Sharkskin Suit</u> by Lucette Lagnado who died on July 10, 2019 at the age of 62. She was born to a Jewish family in Cairo, Egypt in 1956 and came to the United States in 1965. <u>The Man in the White</u> <u>Sharkskin Suit</u> is a memoir about the author's childhood, the loss of the cosmopolitan world of Cairo's Jewish community before and after World War II. The memoir especially concerns her father's heroic efforts to survive the disappearance of his lost world where he worked and socialized with Egyptian royalty, the wealthy and famous.

The Lagnado family left Cairo following the turmoil there after the rise of Prime Minister Gamal Abdel Nasser. Lucette Lagnado was educated in the United States where she graduated from Vassar College and started a career in journalism. Later, at the "Wall Street Journal" she worked as a cultural and investigative reporter covering, among other topics, health care, health delivery for the uninsured, and new treatments for cancer.

This is how the very intelligent and gifted author describes the Passover seder at her parent's Brooklyn home: "No matter how loudly we sang, our holiday had become not a celebration of the exodus from Egypt, but the inverse - longing to return to the place we were supposedly glad to have left."

If you have any questions or are interested in joining us, please call me at 718-263-4973.

Mollie Alkana

## November 2019 CHESHVAN / KISLEV 5780

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
B.B. = BIRTHDAY BLESS B.C.L.I. = BREAKFAST B.D. = BOOK DISCUSSIG C.L. = CANDLE LIGHTIN E.S. = EVENING SERVIC M.S. = MORNING SERVI N.E.S. = NO EVENING S N.M.S. = NO MORNING	Club & Learn In On G E CE Service	R.C. = RABE S.D. = SING SIST. = SIS S.E. = SHAE T.S. = TIME Y.V. = YIDDI	LES DANCE FERHOOD BBAT ENDS TO STUDY TORAH		1 3 CHESHVAN N.M.S. E.S. 5:45 P.M. C.L. 5:34 P.M.	2 4 CHESHVAN M.S. 9:00 A.M. B.B. E.S. 5:30 P.M. S.E. 6:33 P.M. "NOACH"
<i>3</i> 5 CHESHVAN	4 6 CHESHVAN	5 7 CHESHVAN	6 8 CHESHVAN	7 9 CHESHVAN	8 10 CHESHVAN	9 11 CHESHVAN
M.S. 8:45 A.M. B.C.L.I. 9:30 A.M. S.D. 2:00 P.M. N.E.S.	M.S. 7:00 A.M. N.E.S.	N.M.S. N.E.S.	N.M.S. Y.V. 1:00 P.M. N.E.S. R.C. 6:30 P.M.	M.S. 7:00 A.M. N.E.S.	N.M.S. E.S. 4:30 P.M. C.L. 4:26 P.M.	M.S. 9:00 A.M. E.S. 5:30 P.M. S.E. 5:26 P.M.
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS						"LECH-LECHA"
<b>10</b> 12 CHESHVAN	<b>11</b> 13 CHESHVAN	<b>12</b> 14 CHESHVAN	<b>13</b> 15 CHESHVAN	<b>14</b> 16 CHESHVAN	<b>15</b> 17 CHESHVAN	<b>16</b> 18 CHESHVAN
M.S. 8:45 A.M. B.C.L.I. 9:30 A.M. N.E.S.	M.S. 7:00 A.M. N.E.S.	N.M.S. N.E.S.	N.M.S. Y.V. 1:00 P.M. N.E.S. R.C. 6:30 P.M.	M.S. 7:00 A.M. KNITTING-1:00 pm N.E.S.	N.M.S. E.S. 4:30 P.M. C.L. 4:20 P.M.	M.S. 9:00 A.M. E.S. 5:30 P.M. S.E. 5:20 P.M.
	VETERANS DAY					<i>"VAYERA"</i>
<b>17</b> 19 CHESHVAN	<b>18</b> 20 CHESHVAN	<b>19</b> 21 CHESHVAN	<b>20</b> 22 CHESHVAN	<b>21</b> 23 CHESHVAN	<b>22</b> 24 CHESHVAN	<b>23</b> 25 CHESHVAN
M.S. 8:45 A.M. GLOBAL DAY OF JEWISH LEARNING - 10:30 A.M. N.E.S.	M.S. 7:00 A.M. SIST. 12:15 P.M. N.E.S.	N.M.S. N.E.S.	N.M.S. Y.V. 1:00 P.M. N.E.S. R.C. 6:30 P.M.	M.S. 7:00 A.M. N.E.S.	N.M.S. E.S. 4:30 P.M. C.L. 4:15 P.M.	M.S. 9:00 A.M. T.S. 12:30 P.M. E.S. 5:30 P.M. S.E. 5:16 P.M.
						"CHAYEI SARA"
<b>24</b> 26 CHESHVAN	<b>25</b> 27 CHESHVAN	<b>26</b> 28 CHESHVAN	2729 CHESHVAN	2830 CHESHVAN	<b>29</b> <i>1 KISLEV</i>	<b>30</b> 2 KISLEV
M.S. 8:45 A.M. B.C.L.I. 9:30 A.M. N.E.S.	M.S. 7:00 A.M. N.E.S.	N.M.S. N.E.S.	N.M.S. Y.V. 1:00 P.M. N.E.S. R.C. 6:30 P.M.	M.S. 8:45 A.M. N.E.S. THANKSGIVING DAY	M.S. 7:00 A.M. E.S. 4:15 P.M. C.L. 4:11 P.M.	M.S. 9:00 A.M. E.S. 5:30 P.M. S.E. 5:14 P.M.
				ROSH C	HODESH	<i>"TOLDOT"</i>

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Max Amper Francine Glickfeld Sandi Goodman Mark Hochberg Regina Landau Sheila Sasmor



### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sonia & Jack Siegel



### <u>REFUAH SHELEIMAH</u>

Jerrey Adler Bertha Klein Sol Leibowitz Ruth Loewenstein Allan Morrin Agnes Posner Frances Rotkopf Sid Rubin Ida Schwartz Lee Lobel-Zwang

### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

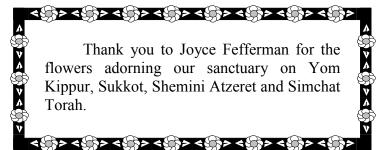
Donations received by the Center office after October 17th will be listed in the December Bulletin.

High holiday donations and Shemini Atzeret yizkor donations will also be acknowledged in the December Bulletin.

### LOSS IN MEMBER'S FAMILY

Sylvia Kelepis, mother of Ira Shimshi.

We extend our deepest condolences to Ira Shimshi and family.



### MAZAL TOV FLORENCE COHEN

Mazal Tov to Florence Cohen who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in October. Florence also recently became a great grandmother to a baby girl. Best wishes to Florence and her family.

To all dear & devoted members, staff and friends,

I can never thank you enough for all your devotion, kindness, support & helpfulness you have shown to me & for the donations you made. I can never repay you enough for all that you have done. All this helped and encouraged me to survive this ordeal and stimulated me to go on. Each one of you performed many mitzvot. Todah Rabah.

Ruth Loewenstein



### In Memoriam



The members listed below will observe Yahrzeit as indicated. Yahrzeit candles should be lit the night before. Schedule of service elsewhere in this Bulletin. Please help ensure a Minyan by attending services Please note: there are no morning services on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, unless it is Rosh Chodesh, a special holiday or - if there is a yahrzeit. If you have a yahrzeit which falls on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday morning, please inform Rabbi Daniel if you would like to have services.

Saturday, November 2nd Freda Gimple - Aunt Sunday, November 3rd Freda Gimple - Grandfather Ira Werner - Grandmother Wednesday, November 6th Pnina Lanxner - Husband Thursday, November 7th Shirley Decker - Sister in law Friday, November 8th Mollie Alkana - Sister Tuesday, November 12th Max Amper - Mother Sunday, November 24th Freda Gimple - Uncle Jenny Sill - Husband Friday, November 29th Ruthe Unger - Mother

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### HIGH HOLIDAY HONORS

Martin Cantor, in honor of aliyah on Rosh Hashanah.

Susan Goldschmidt, in honor of reading prayer on Rosh Hashanah.

Harriet Goodman, in honor of opening the ark on Yom Kippur.

Sandi Goodman, in honor of reading prayer on Rosh Hashanah.

Mark Hochberg, in honor of aliyah on Yom Kippur.

Pnina Lanxner, in honor of opening the ark on Rosh Hashanah.

Ida & Arthur Schwartz, for Rosh Hashanah honors given to their daughter Robin Schwartz and their son Jeffrey Schwartz.

Arthur Schwartz, in honor of chanting the Haftorah on Yom Kippur.

Ruth Wolfson, in honor of opening the ark on Rosh Hashanah.

Elizabeth Zakoff, in honor of opening the ark on Yom Kippur.

Elliott Zakoff, in honor of holding the Torah on Kol Nidre.

Joel Zakoff, in honor of aliyah on Yom Kippur.

Lynne Zakoff, in honor of opening the ark on Yom Kippur.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### YAHRZEIT FUND

Mollie Alkana, in memory of father Philip.

Reuben Ezra, in memory of father Heskail Ezra.

Joyce Fefferman, in memory of mother Sally Fefferman.

Susan Goldschmidt, in memory of husband Rudy Goldschmidt.

Harriet Goodman & Sandi Goodman, in memory of father Solomon Goodman.

Rachel Kacenelenbogen, in memory of sister Yaffa.

Ruth Kaplan, in memory of father Mordechai.

Ruth Kaplan, in memory of son in law Gary.

John Landes, in memory of father Joseph Landes.

Ruth Loewenstein, in memory of father Willy Loewenstein.

Hedy Rothschild, in memory of husband Siggi Rothschild.

Arthur Schwartz, in memory of brother Milton Schwartz.

### **GENERAL DONATIONS**

Robin Hochberg, in honor of reading prayer on Shabbat. Rachel Kacenelenbogen, in honor of reading prayer on Shabbat.

Arthur Schwartz, for the honor of chanting the Haftorah on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Arthur Schwartz, in honor of aliyah on September  $21^{st}$ . Arthur Schwartz, in honor of aliyah on September  $28^{th}$ .

Joel Zakoff, in honor of aliyah.

Lynne & Joel Zakoff

### <u>MEMORIAL FUND</u>

Deena Greenberg Feit, in memory of Sylvia Kelepis. Robin & Mark Hochberg, in memory of Sylvia Kelepis. Sonia and Jack Siegel & Aaron & Jacob Zucker, in memory of Sylvia Kelepis.

Rochelle Wasserman, in memory of Maurice Rotkopf.

### REFUAH SHELEIMAH

Shirley Decker, for the recovery of Agnes Posner.

Shirley Decker, for the recovery of Lee Lobel-Zwang.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, for the recovery of Rabbi Romiel Daniel.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, for the recovery of Bertha Klein.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, for the recovery of Sid Rubin.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Ida Schwartz.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Bertha Klein.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Lee Lobel-Zwang.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Agnes Posner.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Frances Rotkopf.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Elaine Spodick.

Sandy & Martin Novzen, for the recovery of Ruth Loewenstein.

Sandy & Martin Novzen, for the recovery of Rabbi Romiel Daniel.

Sandy & Martin Novzen, for the recovery of Bertha Klein.

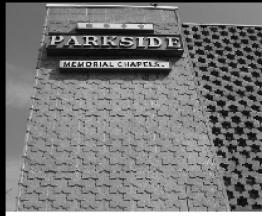
Sonia and Jack Siegel & Aaron and Jacob Zucker, for the recovery of Ruth Loewenstein.

Sonia and Jack Siegel & Aaron & Jacob Zucker, for the recovery of Bertha Klein.

Ray & Ed Starer, for the recovery of Bertha Klein.

Carol Stoller & Stuart Hess, for the recovery of Ida Schwartz.





### PARKSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

has been the Funeral Director for the Rego Park Jewish Center for 50 years. We are both your neighbor and family and very proud of our long standing relationship.

We can be reached 24 hours a day, 7

## days a week at 98-60 Queens Boulevard in Rego Park.

## (718) 896-9000

Stop by sometime to discuss pre-arranging a funeral or to get a Yahrzeit Calendar or to answer any question you might have. OUR JEWISH FAMILY IS HERE TO HELP YOUR FAMILY Rego Park Jewish Center 97-30 Queens Blvd Rego Park, NY 11374



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