

Kayruv



קירוב

“Judaism for Today In a Warm and Caring Environment”

April 2019

Nisan 5779

FROM THE RABBI



Dear Friends,

Four children appear in the *Pesach Haggadah*: the wise, the simple, the one who does not know how to ask, and everyone's favorite, the evil child.

An enormous amount of ink has been used to explain these four children, but above all the evil child.

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Kayruv means “Welcoming.”

What to make of the child's actions, and what to make of the parents' response? Are the parents really wise when they tell the child, “If you were there you wouldn't have been saved.”?

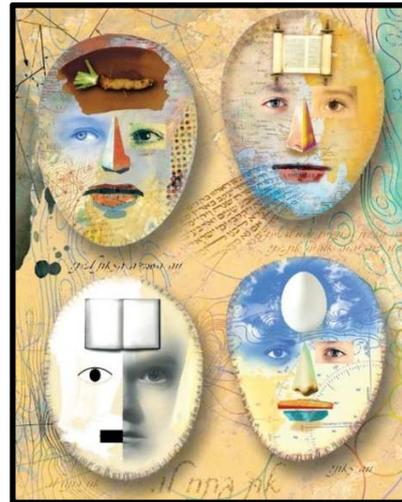
If older *haggadot* were accepting of the one dimensional typifying and picturing of the four children, more recent ones are less fine. They tend to have some variation of “the four children in each of us,” stressing that we all have our waves of interest and disinterest, of moments of wisdom and moments of rebellion. This part of the *Haggadah* usually comes with gorgeous illustrations. I added some at the end of this piece.

But what really interests me, right now, is to talk about what exactly happens to the evil child. She asks, “What is this worship to you?” To which the narrator voice of the *Haggadah* says, “To you, and not to the child! And because the child excludes herself from the community, she has despised the essence...”

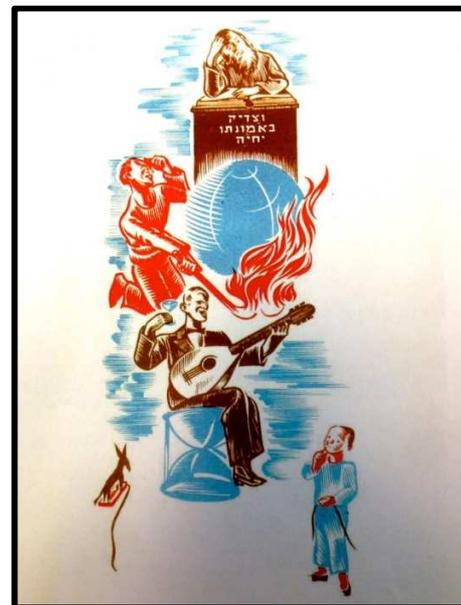
The *Haggadah* is really trying to explain that the only thing that the evil child does is not see herself as part of the community. That self-exclusion is what breaks the relationship.

Purim has just passed, and I would be remiss if I did not point out that our Purim Shpiel Pizza party was delightful. And what a great success our Purim bags fundraiser was. But I would be even

more remiss if I did not point out that nothing happens just out of the blue. People from the community came together to make it all happen. For instance, without the Takken family's efforts we would not have *hamantaschen*. Without the kids from Hebrew School there would have been no shpiel and no goodie bags. Without some devoted drivers the goodie bags would not have been delivered. Without some devoted kitchen crew (I'm looking at you, Dina Markind and others who would rather remain anonymous) there would have been no pizza. And there is also the unsung people who cleaned up afterwards. And without everyone who came, helped read the *megillah*, came in costume, made fun...the party would not have happened.



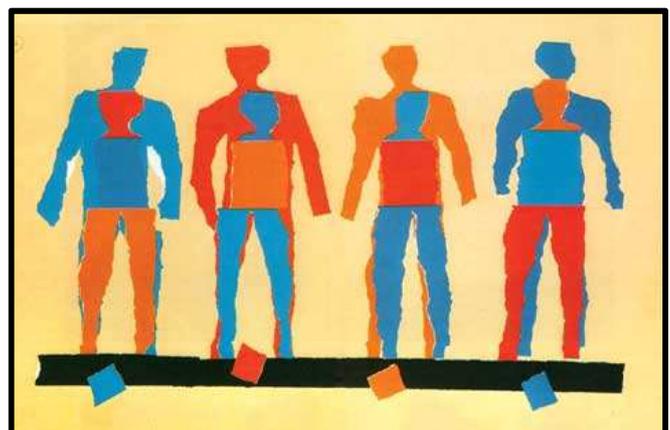
And I'm reminding you of all of this because after *Pesach* (Yes, there is life after Passover.) comes our annual meeting. And we need people to serve on the board, and we need people to step up and become president and vice-president. We are tremendously grateful to Izzy Kaplan for stepping up as interim president. Those who have done this before will certainly support you – I know this because I have had the privilege of serving B'nai Israel for the past twelve years, and I know: we are a true community.



This is not the moment to hide behind your inner evil child. This is the moment to embrace any one of the other inner children, and raise your hand and say, "*Hineni*, here I am!"

Warmly,
Rabbi Nelly Altenburger

[more pictures can be found at:
<https://www.theicenter.org/resource/artistic-depictions-four-sons-and-daughters>; a few supplements for your seder are all collected at:
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/passover-guides-serve-up-a-side-of-social-justice-for-the-seder-table/>



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Perhaps you've heard that our very dedicated President, Paul Simon, has resigned his position. We are not privy to his reason(s), but I want him to know that his service (which went above and beyond) will always be appreciated and that we wish him well going forward.

This is Isabel Kaplan (better known as Izzy around these parts) and I am serving as Interim President. As the great philosopher Yogi Berra put it, "It feels like "déjà vu all over again." You see, I was President about seven years ago and I am proud to have the full support of our board once again. With the board's leadership and dedication and the support of Rabbi Altenburger, we will press on to make Congregation B'nai Israel the place where we all come together in fellowship.

Please know that my "door" is always open. I can usually be reached by email (izzykap@sbcglobal.net) or by texting me at and I will do my best to respond as quickly as possible.

Though other reminders will be forthcoming, let me be the first to tell you that this year's Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 20th at 7:00 P.M.** As usual, refreshments will be served and a new slate of officers and board members will be elected. This is an important meeting and I ask you to make every effort to attend.

Our nominating committee is working hard to fill positions on the board including President and Vice President. Help us to make a smooth transition into the new year by stepping up and making a huge difference in the life of YOUR synagogue.

Let me thank you in advance for helping in the continuing effort to keep our *shul* the warm and welcoming place that it is.

This is what keeps me coming.

B'Shalom,
Isabel Kaplan

THANK YOU!

This year's *Mishloch Manot* Purim Goody Bag Fundraiser was a great success thanks to you.

The Altenburger Family
Paula & Philip Cook
The Frenkel Family
The Gambino Family
Donna Goodstein
The Graber Family
Fran & Jeff Kass
Barbara & Eileen Kessler
Chris & Fran Kimball
The Koldewyn Family
The Markind Family
David & Sandy Maser
The Ohring Family
Eliezer & Gesya Rabinovich
Joyce & Martin Shenker
Lois & Michael Stein
The Takken Family
Susan & Henry Tritter
Barbara Weisblatt

Passover Schedule 2019



Thursday, April 18th

Search for *chametz* at three stars - 8:07 P.M.

Friday, April 19th

Finish eating *chametz* before 10:37 A.M.

Sell and burn *chametz* before 11:45 A.M.

Candle lighting and First *Seder* 7:20 P.M.

Saturday, April 20th

Pesach services begin at 9:30 A.M.

Candle lighting and Second *Seder* at 8:23 P.M.

Sunday, April 21st

Pesach services begin at 9:30 A.M.

End of the second day – 8:24 P.M.

Thursday, April 25th

Candle Lighting for the seventh day of *Pesach* – 7:27 P.M.

Friday, April 26th

Pesach Services begin at 9:30 A.M.

Candle Lighting for the eighth day and Shabbat – 7:28 P.M.

Saturday, April 27th

Pesach and Shabbat Services begin at 9:30 A.M.

Yizkor at approximately 10:45 A.M.

Pesach ends at 8:32 P.M.

Eat-all-the-*chametz*-you-can begins at 8:32 P.M.

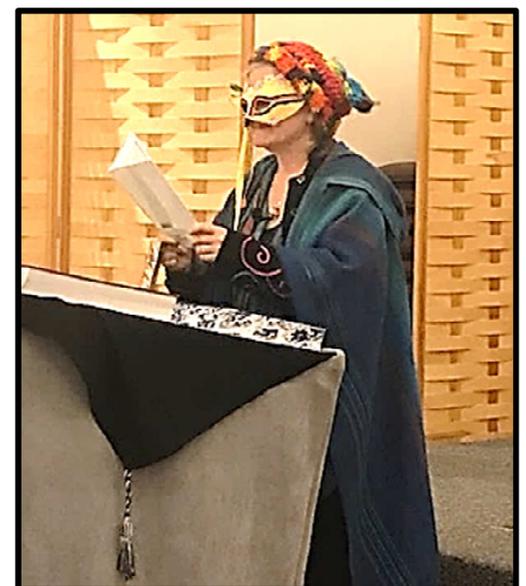
GOOD TIMES WE SHARED

CBI's PURIM PARTY

This year's Purim party was a fun time for all who attended! Both young and old were "interestingly costumed." Our Hebrew School's Purim Shpiel was based on the 1980's. You remember the 80's don't you. Rubik's Cube, Boom Boxes! Haman didn't have a chance! We dined on bagel pizzas, salad and a few other treats. Thanks to all who helped with the dinner.

What! You couldn't make it. Here are photos of this fun event.

Photos courtesy of Nadja Raver







בדיקת חמץ The Search for Hameitz

The formal search for leaven (בדיקת חמץ) is conducted on the night before *Pesah*. This symbolizes the final removal of leaven from the home. Before the search, it is customary to deposit small pieces of bread (ten pieces, according to kabbalistic lore) in strategic places so that the inspection should have a purpose. It is traditionally carried out by the light of a candle, with a feather and a wooden spoon to collect the *hameitz*; all this is set aside until morning. If *erev Pesah* occurs on Shabbat, we search for *hameitz* on Thursday evening.

Before the search, recite:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, Barukh atah Adonai Eloheinu melekh haolam,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav,
וְצִוָּנוּ עַל בְּעוֹר חָמֵץ. v'tzivanu al biur hameitz.

Praised are You Adonai our God, who rules the universe, instilling in us the holiness of mitzvot by commanding us to remove all hameitz.

After the search, recite:

כֹּל חֲמִירָא וְחַמְיָעָא דְאַכְּא בְּרִשּׁוּתִי, Kol hamira v'hamia d'ika virshuti,
דְּלֹא חֲמַתֵּיהּ וְדְלֹא בְעִרְתֵּיהּ וְדְלֹא יִדְעָנָא לֵיהּ, d'la hamiteih udla viarteih udla y'dana leih,
לְבַטֵּל וְלִהְיוּ הֶפְקֵר כְּעַפְרָא דְאַרְעָא. libateil v'lehevei hefkeir k'afra d'ara.

All hameitz in my possession which I have not seen or removed, or of which I am unaware, is hereby nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.

Recitation of this declaration, and a similar one the following day, prevents us from violating the prohibition against *hameitz* (Exodus 13:7). In the morning, after the last meal of *hameitz*, leftovers are added to the crumbs gathered the previous night. These are burned or thrown out. This concludes the ritual of banishing *hameitz* from our dwellings.

In the morning, recite:

כֹּל חֲמִירָא וְחַמְיָעָא דְאַכְּא בְּרִשּׁוּתִי, Kol hamira vahamia d'ika virshuti
דְּחִזְתֵּיהּ וְדְלֹא חִזְתֵּיהּ, dahaziteih udla haziteih,
דְּחַמַּתֵּיהּ וְדְלֹא חַמַּתֵּיהּ, dahamiteih udla hamiteih,
דְּבְעִרְתֵּיהּ וְדְלֹא בְעִרְתֵּיהּ, d'viarteih udla viarteih
לְבַטֵּל וְלִהְיוּ הֶפְקֵר כְּעַפְרָא דְאַרְעָא. libateil v'lehevei hefkeir k'afra d'ara.

All hameitz in my possession, whether I have seen it or not, whether I have removed it or not, is hereby nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth.

**DELEGATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR SALE OF CHAMETZ ~ 2019**

I, the undersigned, fully empower and authorize Rabbi Nelly Altenburger of Congregation B'nai Israel in Danbury, CT, to act in my place and stead, and on my behalf to sell all *chametz* possessed by me (knowingly or unknowingly) as defined by the Torah and Rabbinic Law such as *chametz*, doubt or suspicion of *chametz* and all kinds of *chametz* mixtures, as well as *chametz* that tends to adhere to a surface of the inside of pans, pots or cooking utensils, the utensils themselves, and all kinds of live animals and pets that have been eating *chametz* and mixtures thereof. And to lease all places wherein the *chametz* owned by me may be stored or found, especially in the premises specified below and elsewhere, from 19th of April 2019 at 11:45 am to the end of the festival of Passover.

Rabbi Nelly Altenburger has the full right to sell and to lease by transactions as she deems fit and proper and for such time which she believes necessary in accordance with all detailed terms and forms as explained in the General Contract of Sale. This authorization is made as part of the contract. Also, I do hereby give the said Rabbi Nelly Altenburger full power and authority to appoint a proxy in her place with the full power to sell and to lease as provided herein.

The above given power is in conformity with all Torah, Rabbinical regulations and laws and also in accordance with the laws of the country, and to this I hereby affix my signature on this: _____ day of _____ In the year 5779/2019

(PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS)

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

LOCATION OF *CHAMETZ*:

This form must be returned by 11:30AM on Friday the 19th of April 2019. No responsibility will be accepted for forms received after this date.

PASSOVER KITCHEN MAKEOVER

Making the Passover Changeover – the basics

The most important thing to know when you clean for Passover is that only the necessary work has to be done. Do not make yourself crazy. There is no need for *Pesach* cleaning to make you feel like you really never left Egypt. You **do have choices**: a more superficial level or a thorough cleaning. But remember to pace yourself.

What are you looking for?

What is this *chametz* we have to get rid of? The verse in the Torah says: "Neither *chametz* nor *se'or* shall be visible to you in all your boundaries" (Exodus or Shemot 13:7) *Chametz* is defined as the result of grain (oats, rye, wheat, spelt, barley) that ferments. *Se'or* is fermented dough that is used to make another dough ferment – we call this sourdough, or starter dough, as opposed to yeast. *Chametz* is food. *Se'or* is not food, it has the function of fermenting other dough and it is truly inedible.

There's a third category: Non-edible *chametz* that is not capable of fermenting other dough. That is neither *chametz* nor *se'or*. In Jewish law we call this "garbage" or *shmutz* - and it does not have to be gotten rid of for Passover. A good example is dust from a Cheerio on the floor.

To review the three categories:

- 1) **Chametz** is food made of fermented grain.
- 2) **Se'or** is non-edible sourdough, which has the power to ferment other dough.
- 3) **Garbage** is something that is either incapable of fermenting other dough, or so totally non-edible that a dog wouldn't eat it.

If you have small children, you do have to do a more thorough cleaning – all rooms have to be cleaned, including closets, if your children are pre-*b'nai mitzvah* age. **As you finish each room, you might post a sign, such as "Kosher I/Pesach" or "Chametzbusters were here!"** These signs remind the family both that food is not to be taken into these rooms, and that the task of cleaning for *Pesach* is gradually being accomplished. This is also a wonderful time for going over toys and books that have been

outgrown. Each person can realize that he or she has changed since last *Pesach*, and that it is time to recognize that new person by removing the "*chametz*" of the old.

Once your kids are old enough that you would trust them not to forget food in their clothes and jackets, you can allow yourself not to clean the closets.

Any place in your house that you know no one takes food to eat, such as an attic or the top of the refrigerator, **does not have** to be cleaned.

The kitchen can be seen as a serious challenge. However, if you take it step by step, you can keep it from being completely overwhelming. Listed here is a suggested order for *kashering* different parts of the kitchen so that you don't lose your mind along with the *chametz*!

✂ _____

Kitchen Countdown! (print out and affix to your refrigerator)

1. About a month in advance: stop buying *chametz*, and try to use what you already have at home. It's easier to change a pantry with fewer items.
2. About two weeks before: begin buying and storing *Pesachdik* foods, preferably out of the kitchen, so that they will not be confused with things that are "*chametzdik*."
3. One day before: use your dishwasher, stove, oven and microwave for the last time. They all need a 24-hour waiting period before being *kashered*. Begin using your sink with cold or warm water (not hot). Put away pots and utensils that cannot be *kashered*, or that you won't use again.
4. Here we go: Select an area to be *chametzdik*, where you will still do some of the meals during those days.
5. Clean the kitchen cupboards. If you don't have special *Pesach*-only cabinets, remove the regular dishes from the cabinets you will need and get them *Pesach*-ready. The food for *Pesach* can

then be put inside. If you don't need to empty all of your cabinets, DON'T!! After you clean them to make sure they are *chametz*-free, tape them shut and mark them so that they will not be used. The outside surfaces should still be cleaned.

6. *Kasher* the refrigerator and freezer. One small corner lined with foil can be used for *chametz* until the morning before the Seder. The foil is discarded at the final changeover.
7. *Kasher* the stove and oven (after a 24-hour waiting period). After this point, *chametzdik* meals should be prepared in a toaster oven or other appliance. Microwave ovens can be *kashered*, but they **have to be unused for 24 hours beforehand**. The process itself is quick, however, so the microwave can remain available longer than the oven.
8. *Kasher* the dishwasher (Alternatively you may decide to lock the dishwasher and not use it for *Pesach*, using it for *chametzdik* storage instead).
9. *Kasher* part of the counter so that you can put *Pesach* dishes and foodstuff on it.
10. *Kasher* pots, pans, and silverware (flatware). Skip this step if you have doubled your pots, pans and silverware for Passover.
11. *Kasher* the microwave.
12. *Kasher* the sink.
13. Take all remaining *chametz* out of the kitchen. Finish *kashering* all of the counters.
14. Clean the floor.
15. Bring out the *Pesach* dishes.

And just how long is this going to take??!

It is a very good idea to have as a goal a completely *kashered* kitchen **at least one day before the morning of the Seder**. Balancing *chametzdik* meals and a *Pesach* kitchen is NOT easy, but lends to the sense of adventure. People end up eating dinner on the porch or even outside when the weather is warm enough. In order to manage everything, it is a good idea to start the kitchen four to five days ahead of the holiday, allowing more time if you have a very busy regular schedule. IT DOES GET FINISHED!!

But I have so much *chametz*!

Observing *Pesach* is expensive, but it is not supposed to cause financial hardship. It is a good idea to try to use up as much regular, opened food as possible before the holiday. If, however, you have just too much left, by *halakhah* (religious law) you can sell it. This is called *mechirat chametz*. All of the *chametz* must be in a specified place, described, and paid for by a non-Jew. Because the process is complicated, it is usually conducted through a rabbi. See B'nai Israel's sale of *chametz* form on page 10.

The combination of children and cleaning

Drawing children into the activities is one of the central goals of *Pesach* and the Seder. However, the serious cleaning of the holiday is hard for adults to enjoy, let alone youngsters! Aside from the plain hard work, there are often strong chemicals around, heavy boxes to move, and sometimes stressed people to contend with. THIS may be the time to get a sitter. Alternatively, work with the children on preparing for the Seder and get someone else to clean your kitchen!

HOWEVER, if you are on your own with children demanding your attention while you are trying to make progress, get them started in one of the activities to get ready for the Seder (such as making place cards or pictures for one of the table songs) within shouting distance. You can then continue to work (although you will be interrupted) and the children will be contributing to the preparations. When a major job is almost done, the children may be able to symbolically "help" complete it. As they see it getting finished, they can get the feeling that everyone in the house is working together to "bring *Pesach* closer."

Of course, the children should have an active part in the culminating activities of searching for and burning the *chametz*. They should be made aware that all *chametz* is now nobody's property: it is like dust, not for eating, until *Pesach* is over. They can be reassured, if necessary, that the change is not permanent, and they will get to enjoy Cheerios again before too long!

YOU DID IT!!

IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



SAVE THE DATE!

Live Healthy

4th Annual Western CT Health & Leisure Fair

Wednesday May 22 11 am - 3 pm

Walzer Family Jewish Community Campus
444 Main Street North Southbury



Jewish Federation OF WESTERN CONNECTICUT
Beit avigot help make the Community Stronger

MAZON'S FIFTH QUESTION
(Read this after the seder's Four Questions)



Why is this time of life different from all other times of life?

Hunger among Americans 60 and older is a growing crisis. One in seven seniors lives in poverty, and 4.9 million seniors struggle with hunger.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a lifeline for seniors, but many older Americans are not receiving this vital assistance. Three out of five seniors who are eligible for SNAP do not participate, meaning millions of seniors are missing out due to shame, stigma, and difficulty accessing services.

Why is it so hard to be older in America? Why are so many seniors aging into poverty?

Why is it that when we talk about aging in America, we never talk about hunger? Why is this time of life different from all other times of life?

On this night, we honor our elders, our ancestors, and those who came before us. On all other nights, how is it that we allow seniors to go hungry? How can we fail to respond when our elders are suffering?

Tonight, we ask how we can change the reality for the 4.9 million seniors who are struggling with hunger.



YOU CAN HELP HUNGRY SENIORS

Barbara, a senior from New York City, said "No way did I ever think I'd be in this position. I did everything right in my life." Too many seniors like Barbara are aging into poverty, isolation, and hunger.

You can help by talking about this issue at your Seder table, and by reaching out to the seniors in your life. And, through MAZON, you can take action by advocating to protect and strengthen critical nutrition assistance programs like SNAP and supporting legislation like the Older Americans Act, which will be reauthorized in 2019. To learn more, visit mazon.org/seniors.

Together, we can transform how it is, into how it should be.

MAZON A Jewish Response To Hunger | 10850 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90024 | (800) 813-0557 | mazon.org



JCC IN SHERMAN & THE SHERMAN LIBRARY HOST

GREAT DECISIONS 2019

SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH STARTING FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH
7PM - 9 PM (ALTERNATING LOCATIONS) | FREE

LOCATIONS, DATES, & TOPICS

JCC in Sherman April 12th	Refugees and Global Migration
The Sherman Library May 10th	The Middle East: Regional Disorder
JCC in Sherman June 14th	Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?
The Sherman Library July 12th	The Rise of Populism in Europe
JCC in Sherman August 9th	Decoding U.S.- China Trade
The Sherman Library September 13th	Cyber Conflict and Geopolitics
JCC in Sherman October 11th	The United State and Mexico: Partnership Tested
The Sherman Library November 8th	State of the State Department and Diplomacy

REGISTER AT: WWW.JCCINSHERMAN.ORG
CALL / EMAIL: 860-355-8050 | INFO@JCCINSHERMAN.ORG
OR THE SHERMAN LIBRARY 860-354-2455
SPACE IS LIMITED SO PLEASE REGISTER EARLY

PICK UP A BRIEFING BOOK AT THE JCC OR SHERMAN LIBRARY

THE JCC IN SHERMAN PRESENTS

SURVIVOR

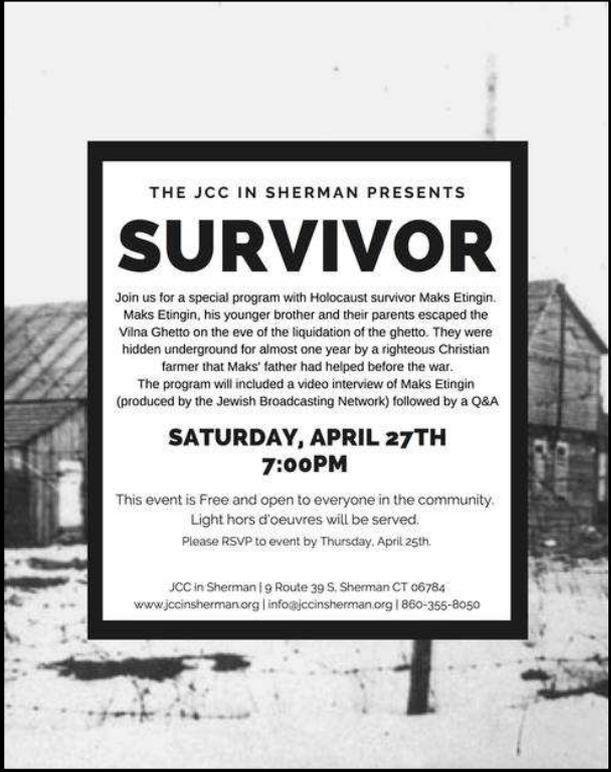
Join us for a special program with Holocaust survivor Maks Etingin. Maks Etingin, his younger brother and their parents escaped the Vilna Ghetto on the eve of the liquidation of the ghetto. They were hidden underground for almost one year by a righteous Christian farmer that Maks' father had helped before the war.

The program will include a video interview of Maks Etingin (produced by the Jewish Broadcasting Network) followed by a Q&A

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH
7:00PM

This event is Free and open to everyone in the community.
Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.
Please RSVP to event by Thursday, April 25th.

JCC in Sherman | 9 Route 39 S, Sherman CT 06784
www.jccinsherman.org | info@jccinsherman.org | 860-355-8050



SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

☆ **Shabbat, 1 Nisan, April 6, Tazria:** The laws of ritual purity. *Haftarah:* Ezek. 45:16-46:18

☆ **Shabbat, 8 Nisan, April 13, Metsora:** Continuation of laws of ritual purity. *Haftarah:* Mal. 3:4-24, 23

☆ **Shabbat, 15 Nisan, April 20, Pesach Day 1**

☆ **Shabbat, 22 Nisan, April 27, Pesach Day 8**

☆ **Shabbat, 29 Nisan, May 4, Aharei mot:** The establishment of the annual atonement ritual for the People of Israel (*Yom Kippur*). *Haftarah:* 1 Sam. 20:18-42

☆ **Shabbat, 6 Iyar, May 11, Kedoshim:** The ethical laws that govern Jewish society in the Holiness Code. *Haftarah:* Amos 9:7-15

CANDLE LIGHTING

April 5, 2019	7:07 PM
April 12, 2019:	7:14 PM
April 19, 2019: (<i>Erev Pesach</i>)	7:20 PM
April 20, 2019: (for <i>Pesach</i> Day 2)	8:23 PM
April 25, 2019: (for <i>Pesach</i> Day 7)	7:27 PM
April 26, 2019: (for <i>Pesach</i> Day 8)	7:28 PM
May 3, 2019:	7:36 PM
May 10, 2019:	7:43 PM

YAHARZEITS

10 Nisan, April 15, 2019

Cynthia Shenker (Joyce and Martin Shenker)

13 Nisan, April 18, 2019

Bertram Sommer, Jr. (Lorie Mael)

17 Nisan, April 22, 2019

Larry Shenker (Martin Shenker)

William Hirsch (Peter Hirsch)

Elias Haller (Phyllis Cooper)

20 Nisan, April 25, 2019

Jay Brown (Julie Leventon)

27 Nisan, May 2, 2019

Ida Goldman (Alvin Goldman)

28 Nisan, May 3, 2019

Robert Goodstein (Rachel Koldewyn and Donna Goodstein)

5 Iyar, May 10, 2019

Ralph B. Osnoss (Kenneth Osnoss)

THANKS! THANKS!

For the General Fund

☆ Barbara Weisblatt in honor of Cheryl Vanak

☆ Leon Quintero in memory of Roslyn Bank

For Their Generous Kiddush

☆ Pam Lampell in memory of her mother Adele Small

☆ Dina Markind in memory of her father Max Kruzansky

Donations for CBI's Year Long Food Drive



Our ongoing food donation program continues to be a success. Don't stop now! There are people in our Danbury community that need our help. This is a monthly donation program. Please bring a little something whenever you can.