

# SHOFAR



## Jewish Center of The Moriches

**August 2020, Av/Elul 5780**



# The Jewish Center of the Moriches Temple Board and Spiritual Leader



<b>President</b>	Michael Leselrod		mleselrod@yahoo.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Sam Schneider		sam.m.schneider@gmail.com
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	Tracy Kolsin		tracykolsin@yahoo.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Farra Isaacson		mfisaac@optonline.net
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Cara Sultan		carasultan@gmail.com
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Donna Ash	631-395-3346	desj1975@hotmail.com
<b>Trustees</b>	Sherry Schwartz		ss12@optonline.net
	Larry Kiss		the3kisses@optonline.net
	Doug Sherter		shardou@optonline.net
	Randi Mott		niftykids@gmail.com
<b>Rabbi</b>	Jack Shlachter	505-500-2668	physicsrabbi@gmail.com

**The Rabbi and Officers invite 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!**

Jewish Center (messages picked up daily): 631-270-6655

Website: [www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com](http://www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com)

[www.facebook.com/jewishcenterofthemoriches](https://www.facebook.com/jewishcenterofthemoriches)

Email: [jewishcenterofthemoriches@gmail.com](mailto:jewishcenterofthemoriches@gmail.com)



## ***D'Var HaRav*** (The Rabbi's Message) August 2020

---

Dear Jewish Center of the Moriches Friends:

As I write this, the JCM High Holiday Task Force has been working diligently to craft a High Holiday schedule that will be meaningful while keeping all of us safe and healthy. Most of our Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur services will be electronic, likely on the Zoom platform. If you are unfamiliar with Zoom, please reach out to me or to a JCM board member; we will have volunteers who can guide you through the necessary steps to join services via your smart phone, computer, or even by calling in from a land-line telephone. You may wish to practice with one of our Friday night services, (and I don't say this just to get you to join with us!). Thanks to everyone who responded to the High Holidays community survey; the Task Force is using your answers to help shape the services.

Having Zoomed extensively in both our own services and those of other synagogues these last months, I have some suggestions to help you get the most out of this year's High Holidays.

- 1) Plan to dress for the occasion. You will feel that these Days of Awe really are *Awesome* if you put on your holiday best. For Yom Kippur evening (Kol Nidre) and Yom Kippur day, try to wear white. Not only is this traditional to help us feel like we are atoning and starting fresh, but seeing a sea of white on the "gallery view" in Zoom is sure to be an inspiration.
- 2) Bring appropriate ritual objects to the space where you'll be participating. This might be your kippah, tallit, siddur/machzor book, candles, kiddush cup, and anything else that is special for the holiday. JCM will have holiday items, including the prayerbooks, available for loan.
- 3) Designate a special place for worshiping. You'll need some room to stand and sit comfortably, and you'll feel like you've really entered sacred space if it's dedicated to the services and distinct from your work space, eating room, or bedroom.

Perhaps more important as a method to increase your appreciation of the High Holidays is to begin the process of self-reflection at least a month in advance. Traditionally the shofar is blown each weekday morning during the month of Elul (this year starting on August 21) to wake us up – to arouse us from whatever state we may have sunk into inadvertently. We are to remind ourselves of our mortality and that we should work hard to make the most of the life remaining to each of us. Our Friday night services in Elul will include a recitation of Psalm 27 and other passages appropriate for this season of repentance.

More details about High Holiday services will be forthcoming, and note that we will be doing some outdoor, in-person activities such as shofar blowing and tashlich (throwing crumbs into the water) on Sunday, September 20. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy.

B'shalom,  
Rabbi Jack



# Bookplates

## Order “In Honor Of” and “In Memory Of” bookplates for new High Holiday prayer books

Prior to the pandemic, the Rabbi, the Religious Committee, and the Board decided that the time had come for a new set of prayerbooks (*Machzorim*) for the High Holidays. While the Silverman prayer books had many strengths, they have started showing their age (from the 1930's) and it was decided to replace them with a new modern *Machzor* that has many more transliterations and more up-to-date translations.

This is an opportunity for all of us to dedicate prayerbooks in honor or memory of a loved one with a bookplate. A minimum contribution of \$25 per prayerbook is requested. JCM volunteers will put the bookplates into the new books.

This year, because most of the services for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur will be electronic rather than in the temple, JCM is planning to loan prayer books to High Holiday participants. This provides the wonderful opportunity **for this year only** for you to have in hand at home the books dedicated to your loved ones, while you are participating in the “Zoomed” High Holiday services.

A time will be set aside to distribute the dedicated *Machzorim* to the families making the contribution. **Please remember that this would be a loan for this year only, and we are counting on you to return the prayer books to the Jewish Center after the holidays.** Again, you can borrow prayerbooks whether or not you dedicate a bookplate(s).

As of this writing, the bookplates have been “selling like hotcakes.” If you haven’t yet sent in your order, please contact Sherry Schwartz ASAP at 631-878-4880 or email [ss12@optonline.net](mailto:ss12@optonline.net). Bookplate orders are subject to availability, on a first-come, first-serve basis.



## Member Spotlight: Hailey Gray

**JCM's newest  
bat-mitzvah!**



**Hailey Gray**, daughter of John and Jennifer and big sister to Dylan, reached the age of bat-mitzvah this month. Proud grandparents are Paulette and Bob, and Judith and Glenn. The Grays live in Manorville, and they've been part of the JCM family since Hailey was 5 or 6.

Hailey is going into eighth grade at Eastport South Manor (ESM). The end of this school year was a little hard, she says, but once she got used to having all her classes online, it got better. Hailey enjoys history, science labs, and learning how things work. She's also a thespian: during the school year, Hailey takes part in the annual school play, and in previous summers she has participated in backyard theater, which unfortunately was canceled this season.

With her acting, Hailey enjoys being in the chorus and participating in the big dance numbers. When her school mounted a production of "Wizard of Oz," a highlight for Hailey was being cast as a jitterbug who danced with the main characters. "I like working hard for things. Like in gymnastics, [working for] flexibility and strength." She also plays softball.

Passover and Rosh HaShanah are favorite holidays, because "that's when I get to see cousins and the family," says Hailey. She was a little disappointed about the delay of her bat-mitzvah celebration, but she says, "it means that I have more time to work on it and to perfect it." Instead of a big bat-mitzvah party, Hailey and her family had planned a trip to Aruba, and she was looking forward to that as her first trip out of the country.

Mazal Tov



מזל טוב



## Member Spotlight: Mel Lobb



**Mel Lobb** is the dedicated JCMer who is always first at the temple for Friday night services, arriving early to turn on the memorial lights for the week's yahrzeits (anniversary of the time of someone's death). Mel wasn't raised in a Jewish family, but he's had a life-long Jewish connection. "I have Jewish heritage on my father's side, way long ago in Germany," he explains, "I had never pursued it, but when I went to the army, I was stationed in Germany for 19 months, and one time I stopped at Dachau concentration camp. I could feel God was talking to me, I had such strong feelings in my heart." Some years later, he found himself at a Reform temple in Indianapolis, where he lived. When he was 33, after pursuing Jewish learning at the temple, Mel went to the mikvah and officially became a Jew. Mel's older sister converted to Judaism the same day that he did; his sister enjoyed being part of a Reform temple, but Mel found that he preferred a Conservative congregation. Their rabbi at the Reform temple put Mel in touch with a local Conservative rabbi, and Mel took some additional Judaism classes.

Mel and his wife Beverly met when Beverly was on vacation to Indianapolis visiting family. Beverly lived in Shirley, which is how Mel came to Long Island; the couple have been married since 1986. "I married into an Italian Catholic family," says Mel with a smile. After he moved to Shirley, Mel "parted away" from his Judaism for a while, but then he came back. He was driving through Center Moriches one day, and after talking to Cantor Zach, he joined an adult bar/bat-mitzvah class. Mel was one of only two students who finished the class, about five years ago.

Mel has worked as a route salesman, and was a police officer in Indianapolis for 11 years before moving to Long Island. He and Beverly enjoy traveling, and have adventured all around the southern United States, and to the Caribbean. Mel had always wanted to see Israel, and so they went on a 14-day cruise of the Mediterranean, where a highlight was going to the Western Wall in Jerusalem. They also visited the Cairo pyramids and Greece on that trip.

Although their traveling may have slowed down a bit now that they're older, Mel's love of Judaism hasn't diminished with the years. "I've never regretted converting, it's 100% in the heart."

# Familyhood News

Dear JCM Families:

We hope that everyone is doing well in this unusual time.

Although Covid-19 restrictions have prevented us from having our usual social events, we have decided to have an **Outdoor Rummage Sale** on Sunday September 6th (Raindate September 7th) from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. It will be a little different this year, but we hope to pull off a productive fundraiser to support JCM. This year's Rummage Sale will focus on soft goods - clothing, shoes, towels, bedding, curtains, belts, scarves, and other personal items. How can you support us? Please take the time to clean out your closets. Collect donations from family, friends, and neighbors. Contact Larry and Barbara Kiss (the3kisses@optonline.net, 631-874-4928) to arrange drop off at JCM by the end of August.

Thank you for your support and hope to see you soon!  
Jennifer Heitman & Janet Bossert, Co-Presidents

## Book Club

Although we still can't meet in person, I'd love to see everyone for a book club meeting online! We switched our September book to read in June, but now that libraries are back in business, we should all be able to get our hands on it for our next meeting.

We'll discuss ***A Well-Read Woman: The Life, Loves, and Legacy of Ruth Rappaport*** by Kate Stewart on Sunday, October 4th at 10am via Zoom.

I'll send out a reminder e-mail beforehand with the link to the Zoom meeting.

If you need any help getting a copy from the library, let me know. If you are planning to put it on hold, you should know that it's taking about 10 days for books to get from one library to another.

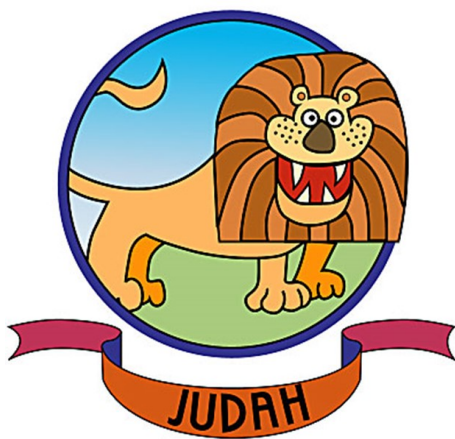
I hope to see you in October!  
Mara Zonderman (mzonderman@gmail.com)

# Hebrew School

The JCM Hebrew School had an interesting year. We started the year with new teachers and a focus on getting to know the kids and building momentum as a group.

Of course, we then had to stop in-person Hebrew School due to Covid-19. We soon started up Zoom lessons and again had to find the right balance for the situation, but we quickly got on track.

Next year, both Nate Sietz and Mike Leselrod will be back as Hebrew school teachers; they look forward to continuing with the students on learning to read Hebrew, history, culture and working more with prayers.



[www.jewish-clipart.com](http://www.jewish-clipart.com)

## Computer Help for on-line services

**Do you need help accessing JCM's on-line services?**

Please contact Joel Heitman, 610-529-3211 for help BEFORE High Holidays. Joel can help you figure out how to use Zoom on the computer, or how to dial in from your land-line phone. Practice by joining a Friday service, so you're comfortable on Rosh HaShanah. Thank you, Joel!



# Donations

Donna Ash	in memory of husband Joseph Ash, mother-in-law Gertrude Ash
Harriet Matysko	in memory of mother Anna Rebecca Kuhl
Morton & Gwen Stark	in memory of father Solomon Levine
ANONYMOUS	towards new prayer books
Larry & Barbara Kiss	in memory of father Ben Kiss
The Heitman Family	in honor of Michael Leselrod, Rabbi Jack Shlachter, Beverly Post Shlachter, Jenny & Joel's anniversary, Darin Heitman's birthday, Max Heitman's birthday
Elaine Bernstein	in memory of mother Belle Bernstein
Judy Hean	in memory of mother Belle Bernstein
Rabbi Jack Shlachter & Beverly Post Shlachter	in honor of the congregation

## Thank you!

And a big thank-you to the anonymous donors who generously gave \$5,000 towards new prayer books (machzors) for the High Holidays. The donation enabled JCM to continue with the planned purchase of the new books despite the uncertainties of the pandemic.

All of us in the Jewish Center of the Moriches community will benefit from this wonderful donation for years to come, every time we worship together on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur.

## Many thanks!



**Want to see your name listed?**

**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.**

**Your generous donations ensure that JCM maintains financial stability during these challenging times.**

**Contact Janet Bossert for details, 631-909-8821.**

---

# **Rosh HaShanah & Yom Kippur**

**From Rabbi Jack:** While we don't have all the High Holiday service details yet in hand, the services on Zoom will be abbreviated—the evidence is that people cannot stay on an electronic platform for extended periods of time. In order to address electronic security, worshipers will need to pre-register. Joel Heitman is available for technical help; please contact him ASAP at 610-529-3211 for assistance with downloading Zoom, tuning in by phone, or other questions.

You are most welcome to invite family members from near and far to join you at our electronic services. Sharing in a worship experience with your distant loved ones is a positive benefit of the Zoom platform...without the need for plane tickets and jet lag! We strongly encourage everyone to have a copy of the new High Holiday prayerbooks (machzorim) in their hands. We can provide information on the books for those who are interested in obtaining copies for purchase; local congregants will be able to borrow books from the temple. And please consider making a generous donation to the Jewish Center of the Moriches as you are able.

## **Save the dates!**

**Sunday, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m.:** Mount Pleasant Cemetery service. IN-PERSON.

**Sunday, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2 p.m.** IN-PERSON. Machzor & yizkor booklet pick-up at the Temple

**Monday, Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 p.m.** IN-PERSON. Machzor & yizkor booklet pick-up at the Temple

**Sunday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, 3 p.m.** IN-PERSON. Combined Shofar and Tashlich. Neville Park (end of Canal Street) in Center Moriches

Please note that all IN-PERSON events will require masks and social distancing.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

**THANK YOU** to the JCM High Holiday Task Force: Mara Zonderman, Steve Schwartz, Judy Hean, Joel Heitman, Mark Isaacson & Beverly Post. The Task Force has been working with Rabbi Jack to craft a meaningful, safe holiday experience for the congregation during this most unusual year.

**Shabbat:**  
*Israel's Partner*  
Rabbi Shimon ben Lakish taught: The day of Shabbat came before the Holy One and said, "Creator of the world, every day has a partner (Sunday has Monday...) but I have no partner!" The Holy One replied, "Israel shall be your partner." And when Israel stood at Sinai, God said to them, "Remember My promise to Shabbat that 'Israel will be your partner.'" Thus it is written, "Remember the day of Shabbat to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).

—GENESIS RABBAH

*L'kha Dodi*

*Come, my beloved, to welcome the bride;  
let us greet Shabbat as she arrives.*

"Observe" and "remember" were uttered as one, we heard it thus from the singular One. God's name is one and God is one, renowned with honor and deserving of praise.

*Come, my beloved ...*

Let us go out to greet Shabbat, sacred wellspring of blessing, conceived at the beginning of time, finally formed at the end of six days.

*Come, my beloved ...*

Shrine of our sovereign, royal city, rise up from destruction and fear no more. End your dwelling in the tear-filled valley, for with God's compassion you will be upraised.

*Come, my beloved ...*

*continued*

L'kha dodi likrat kalah, p'nei shabbat n'kab'lah.

shamor v'zakhor b'dibur ehad,  
hishmi-anu El ha-m'yulad.  
Adonai ehad u-shmo ehad,  
l'shem u-t'fillet v'lit-hilah.

L'kha dodi likrat kalah, p'nei shabbat n'kab'lah.

Likrat shabbat l'khu v'neil'k'lah,  
ki hi m'kor ha-brakhah.  
Me'rosh mi-kedem n'sukhah,  
sof ma-aseh b'mahashavah t'hilah.

L'kha dodi likrat kalah, p'nei shabbat n'kab'lah.

Mikdash melekh ir m'lukhah,  
kumi tze'i mitokh ha-halek'lah.  
Rav lakh shevet b'emek ha-bakha,  
v'hu yaha'mol abyikh hemlah.

L'kha dodi likrat kalah, p'nei shabbat n'kab'lah.

לְכָה דוּדִי

לְכָה דוּדִי לְקִרְאת פִּלֵּה, פְּנֵי שַׁבָּת נִקְבְּלָה.

שְׁמור וְזָכוֹר בְּדִבּוּר אֶחָד

הַשְׁמִיעֵנוּ אֵל הַמְיֻלָּד:

יְהוָה אֶחָד וְשְׁמוֹ אֶחָד,

לְשֵׁם וְלִתְפָּאֶרֶת וְלִתְהִלָּה.

לְכָה דוּדִי לְקִרְאת פִּלֵּה, פְּנֵי שַׁבָּת נִקְבְּלָה.

לְקִרְאת שַׁבָּת לְכָה וְנִלְכָה

כִּי הִיא מְקוֹר הַבְּרָכָה.

מֵרֶאשׁ מִקְדָּם נְסוּכָה

סוֹף מַעֲשֵׂה בְּמִתְשַׁכְּבֵה תְהִלָּה.

לְכָה דוּדִי לְקִרְאת פִּלֵּה, פְּנֵי שַׁבָּת נִקְבְּלָה.

מְקוֹדֵשׁ מִלֶּךְ עִיר מְלֻכָּה,

קוּמִי צֵאִי מִתּוֹךְ הַהֶלֶקֶה.

רַב לָךְ שֶׁבֶת בְּעֵמֶק הַבְּכָא,

וְהוּא יְהוֹמֵל עֲלֶיךָ הַמְלָה.

לְכָה דוּדִי לְקִרְאת פִּלֵּה, פְּנֵי שַׁבָּת נִקְבְּלָה.

*continued*

L'kha dodi became a favorite Friday night hymn almost as soon as it was written. Its author, Shlomo Halevi Alkabetz (d. 1510), was a participant in the mystic circle in Safed, associated with the great master, Moses Cordovero. The poem is one of many written by Safed poets in which Shabbat, God, and Israel are intertwined and related through love. The depiction of Shabbat as bride and as queen has a long history of talmudic origin. The stanzas form an acrostic spelling out the author's name, Shlomo Halevi.

L'kha Dodi juxtaposes two simultaneous movements: the human quest for the Divine and the Divine for the human. Thus, we are invited to go and greet Shabbat as she comes to us. Similarly, those mystics who interpreted the process of redemption as reflecting the inner life of the Divine imagined God's glory, *ujeret*, as flowing toward Shabbat, the Shekhinah, and of the Shekhinah rising up to unite with the upper realms. The poem serves as an introduction to Psalm 92, "The Song of the Day of Shabbat," which was the start of the Friday evening service in many rites, before the introduction of Kabbalat Shabbat.

COME, MY BELOVED who is invited here may refer to the soul, to others within the community of Israel, or to an aspect of the Divine. The first half of this refrain contains fifteen letters and the second half contains eleven, which are respectively the numerical equivalents of *yod-hei* and *vav-hei*, spelling out the name of God.

"OBSERVE" AND "REMEMBER" appear twice in the Torah, with minor differences of wording. In Exodus (20:8), the fourth commandment opens with the verb *zakhor*, "remember" the Sabbath day; the Deuteronomy (5:12) version begins *shamor*, "observe" the Sabbath day. Harmonizing them, a midrash states that God uttered both words at once (Mekhilta, *Bajodeish* 7). Evoking that midrash here, the poet thus alludes to the unity established by Shabbat for God, thought and action are one. And on Shabbat we, too, may feel as if who we are and how we behave are more unified.

LET US GO OUT TO GREET SHABBAT rising up to greet Shabbat, the custom followed by the mystics of leaving the synagogue and going out into the fields to welcome Shabbat, the custom followed by the mystics of Safed, based on their interpretation of the Babylonian Talmud (Shabbat 119a).

SHRINE OF OUR SOVEREIGN This verse and the next five all build on the theme of Israel's exile and her promised redemption. Shabbat is seen as a manifestation of the Shekhinah (God's presence in the world), which is in exile with Israel. At the same time, Shabbat is also a foretaste of the redemptive time.



*July, 2020*

*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:*

July 3	Judith Diane Bennett Helfant
July 3	Anna Rebecca Kuhl
July 3	Esther Bley
July 3	David Stein
July 3	Barbara Heller Berkowitz
July 10	Lillian Rudnitsky
July 10	Leo Heller
July 10	Mildred Slifstein
July 10	Sara Konigsberg
July 10	Edward L. Bodow
July 17	Zelda Nooger
July 17	Lawrence A. Goldstein
July 17	Abraham Makransky
July 17	Mac Janis
July 24	Toni Forsch
July 24	Nathaniel Zabler
July 24	Fannie H. Cohn
July 24	Moses Helfant
July 31	Joseph Allen Ash
July 31	Rose Makransky
July 31	Louis Berkowitz

*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 Rabbi prior to the service.*

*"The memory of the righteous is a Blessing"*



*August, 2020*

*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:*

August 7	Minnie Cohen
August 7	Richard Bernstein
August 14	Louis Nooger
August 14	Solomon Simon
August 14	Gertrude Ash
August 21	Joseph Kirsch
August 21	Rose Shapiro
August 21	Mae Laube
August 21	Nathan Bley
August 28	Perry Sheren
August 28	Rose Rudnetsky

*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 Rabbi prior to the service.*

*“The memory of the righteous is a ‘Blessing’*





*September, 2020*

*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:*

September 4	Annie Bernstein
September 4	Charlotte Stark
September 11	Isidore Jacobowitz
September 11	Donald Berger
September 11	Louis Cohn
September 11	Paul Alter
September 11	Augustus H. Bergmann
September 11	Charlotte Ober
September 11	Rhoda Harrison
September 18	Annette Pribut Smith
September 18	Benjamin Fingaroot
September 18	Howard Pribut
September 18	Helen Kronman
September 18	Fay Janis
September 25	Benjamin Shapiro
September 25	Celia Safier

*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 Rabbi prior to the service.*

*"The memory of the righteous is a Blessing"*



*October, 2020*

*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:*

October 2	Sam Bernstein
October 2	Morris Kronman
October 2	Frances Kvaes
October 2	Jacob Kronman
October 9	Theresa Kronman
October 16	Katie Helfant
October 16	William Ringe
October 16	Edith Berkowitz
October 16	Philip Rudnetsky
October 23	Morris Messinger
October 23	Alfred S. Schwartz
October 23	Sylvia Swire
October 23	Herbert Schwartz
October 23	Eve Anne Helfant
October 30	David Cohen
October 30	Sidney Schlansky
October 30	Joseph Harris
October 30	Benjamin Laube

*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 Rabbi prior to the service.*

*"The memory of the righteous is a 'Blessing'"*

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

- ♦ Member Spotlight: Hailey Gray
- ♦ Rummage Sale
- ♦ High Holiday news
- ♦ New prayerbooks for the High Holidays

**Address corrections requested**

**Contact Editor (see inside front cover)**