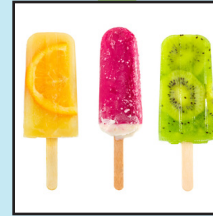




Purim Fun
Take a look at
our Purim photo
gallery!
Pages 8-9



Confirmation
Celebrate our
students at this
special service.
Page 10



Hello Summer!
Check out all we
have planned
for the start of
summer!
Pages 12-13

SHOFAR

Schaarai Zedek News
Volume 127
Number 6
May - June 2024
Nisan - Sivan, 5784

HELLO SUMMER



Connect with us

Live Streaming

Services are streamed at zedek.org/streaming and are available for a limited time for "on demand" viewing.

Public Access Television

TBCN broadcasts our Shabbat Services on public access television in Hillsborough County. Tune in Fridays at 7 PM to the following channels: Frontier Channel 30, Spectrum Channel 639, and Comcast Channel 20. Replays on the above channels air Sundays at 4 PM.

Roku

Simply plug a Roku Streaming Stick into your TV and search for Congregation Schaarai Zedek. Follow the instructions to add it to your channels.

Facebook

Find us at facebook.com/CSZtampa. Follow us to like, comment, and share!

YouTube

Watch past services, sermons, and more on our YouTube channel at youtube.com/congregationschaaraizedek.

Podcast

Listen to past sermons on our podcast by searching for Schaarai Zedek on iTunes, SoundCloud, Google Play, and Stitcher.

eNews

Our weekly eNews email goes out Wednesdays with updates on upcoming events. If you are not receiving email communications, please email office@zedek.org to let us know.

SHOFAR



A bimonthly newsletter by
Congregation Schaarai Zedek

Read the Shofar online:
www.zedek.org/shofar

Welcome!



Carla Markowitz
President

In this month's Shofar article, I'd like to shine a spotlight on someone who plays a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth functioning of Congregation Schaarai Zedek: Marc LeVine, our beloved Executive Director. With his unwavering dedication and tireless efforts, he enriches our community in numerous ways.

After graduating from Harvard, Marc spent the early part of his career at Procter & Gamble. Marc and his family joined CSZ in 1993, and he became our Executive Director in 2007. As Executive Director, Marc wears many hats. From overseeing day-to-day operations to spearheading strategic initiatives, Marc ensures that our synagogue continues to thrive and evolve. Marc's leadership extends beyond administrative tasks; he also fosters a culture of inclusivity, warmth, and engagement, making our congregants and staff feel valued and heard.

Listing all of Marc's daily contributions to CSZ would fill this entire edition of the

Shofar, but one area where Marc truly exceeds all expectations is his management and contribution to the financial security of the Temple. He works diligently to continue CSZ's tradition of fiscal conservatism and is what I fondly refer to as "The Grant Whisperer," obtaining hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant awards for CSZ. These funds have been used to support our Preschool and Temple staff, pay for our ever-increasing security costs, and contribute to other budgetary needs. Marc is supremely talented not only in constantly researching new grant opportunities but also in successfully applying for and obtaining significant grants every year, allowing the Temple to fully serve the Congregation and our staff.

We are truly blessed to have such a valuable Executive Director here at Congregation Schaarai Zedek, not only because of his business and administrative acumen but also because he is an all-around great guy. So please join me in giving a heartfelt thank you to Marc LeVine and his constant and faithful commitment to our Congregation. ☆

Announcing the Establishment of the Stephen Zielonka Memorial Camp Coleman Fund

We are delighted to announce the establishment of the Stephen Zielonka Memorial Camp Coleman Fund, a new addition to the Congregation Schaarai Zedek Endowment Fund. This fund is a testament to the generosity and compassion of Paula and Carl Zielonka, whose profound love for Congregation Schaarai Zedek has inspired this initiative.

With an initial contribution of \$36,000 made in 2024, the Stephen Zielonka Memorial Camp Coleman Fund aims to support children from Congregation Schaarai Zedek families in attending URJ Camp Coleman. This endeavor aligns with the Youth Pillar of the Schaarai Zedek Endowment, underscoring the commitment to nurturing the growth and development of our youth.

Named in loving memory of Stephen Zielonka, this fund serves as a tribute to his legacy and his dedication to Camp Coleman. It symbolizes the enduring impact of individuals who want to leave an indelible mark on our community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Paula and Carl for their significant contribution and unwavering support. Their commitment to enriching the lives of others exemplifies the spirit of compassion and unity that defines Congregation Schaarai Zedek.

The Endowment Fund of Congregation Schaarai Zedek, known as "Eternal Light—The Schaarai Zedek Endowment," sustains crucial aspects of our community's mission through six pillars. These pillars support religious and cultural preservation, educational excellence including the Julia and Samuel Flom Religious School, and essential services such as the Amy Gail Buchman Preschool. Additionally, the fund allocates resources for professional development, youth engagement, and senior care, reflecting our commitment to long-term community prosperity. If you have any questions, please contact Marc LeVine at mlevine@zedek.org or (813) 876-2377 ext. 206.



Harry Lieberman, Shavuot — The Harvest, 1974

The Torah: Given in the Wilderness, but Found Inside Each of Us

Rabbi Joel Simon

*Ki mi-tzion teitzei Torah ud'var Adonai mi'Y'rushalayim
For from out of Zion will come the Torah,
and the word of Adonai from Jerusalem.
Isaiah 2:3*

These are the words we sing as we remove the Torah from the ark, but if any of you think similarly to some of my rabbinical school classmates, you might be troubled by this verse. I will never forget these future rabbis (now current rabbis) who gained so much pleasure singing as loud as they could, "Ki mi-Sinai teitzei Torah - For from out of Sinai will come the Torah." After all, they would say, the Torah was not given from Zion, from within Israel. The Torah, the revelation of which we will celebrate on the holiday of Shavuot this June 11 and 12, was given at Mt. Sinai during the Israelites' time in the wilderness.

The Midrash gives a few explanations for why it's important that Torah was given in the wilderness. Just as the wilderness is accessible to all peoples, so too should the words of Torah be available to anyone. The Yalkut Shimoni, compiled between the 11th and 14th centuries, suggests that had the Torah been given in Israel, one tribe would have been able to claim superiority over another if the revelation had occurred in their territory.

In these interpretations we see a potential conflict between Judaism in Israel and that of the diaspora (communities outside Israel) that I remember seeing in full force in the old *Beit Hatfutsot* - the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv. When my class toured the museum, our teacher encouraged us to compare the Hebrew descriptions throughout the museum to the English translation, and sure enough, we found that they were often nowhere close to each other. The museum was closed in 2017, replaced with the ANU Museum of the Jewish People which opened in 2019, but

**Each of us has
the ability to
experience
revelation
in our own
way, and thus
Torah has
the ability to
emerge from
each of our
lives.**

as the new museum's website explains, "At that time, the classic Zionist view was that the difference between Israelis and their fellow Jews in the diaspora was not just their location, but their values as well, and that there was a fundamental gap between Jews who resided in Israel and Jews who resided outside of Israel. Thus the people of the diaspora's Jewish identity was considered somewhat incomplete, until they came to Israel."

But just as the new museum celebrates the diversity and importance of Jewish communities outside of Israel, so too has our text done the same. In the Talmud, Rabbi Natan, a great Babylonian rabbi proposed, "For from Babylonia will come the Torah, and the word of Adonai from Nehar Paqod (a city in Babylonia)," and centuries later Rabbeinu Tam, a grandson of Rashi living in Italy wrote, "From out of Bari will come the Torah, and the word of Adonai from Taranto," inserting important Italian ports from the time into Isaiah's quote.

At a time in which the relationship between Jews in Israel and in the diaspora is as important as ever, it's so important that we acknowledge our differences and celebrate our similarities. At a recent conference for Reform rabbis throughout North America, Rabbi Weiss and I were so fortunate to learn from many of our colleagues in MARAM, the Council for Progressive and Reform Rabbis in Israel, and as we learned about their experiences in their communities since October 7, we were able to better understand the parallels and differences of the needs of our communities, and we were able to support one another in a truly beautiful way.

The most powerful interpretation I found of the Isaiah text was that of the Rosh, Rabbi Asher ben Yechiel, who taught, "For from **you** will come the Torah, and the word of Adonai from **your** house of study." Deuteronomy 30:12-14 teaches us that the Torah is not in the heavens or across the ocean that we should ask who will get it for us, but rather it is in each of our mouths and hearts that we may live by it. Wherever we are from and however we were exposed to our Jewish tradition, each of us has the ability to experience revelation in our own way, and thus Torah has the ability to emerge from each of our lives.

On this Shavuot, may we each find the Torah that lives in us; may we continue to find ways to develop it, that it may be a source of strength in times of need and inspiration in times of joy. ☆



Unlocking Creativity: Six Points Creative Arts Academy

Cantor Deborah Cannizzaro

This year, I am thrilled to join the Faculty of **Six Points Creative Arts Academy (CAA)**. In partnership with the URJ Regional camps, like Camp Coleman, the Six Points specialty camps were created for students who had passions in sports, science and technology, or the creative arts. In June, I will be among other talented clergy and artists who share a passion for creative arts and their Jewish identity.

As a child, I longed for the opportunity to be with other Jewish children. Growing up in a small synagogue with little connection to the Reform movement, I remained unaware of Jewish summer camps until after my own children were born and I embarked on my journey to the cantorate.

My introduction to a URJ Summer Camp occurred at Wise Temple in Cincinnati, Ohio. There, I noticed a distinct difference between b'nei mitzvah kids who had attended camp and those who hadn't. While all the children were wonderful, those who had experienced camp seemed more self-assured and connected to their Judaism. They wore their Jewish identity with pride, a feeling I never experienced in my youth.

Over time, I witnessed these young campers return and deepen their involvement—not only within the Temple but also in their community, in Israel, and beyond. Inspired by their transformation, I made the decision to send my own sons to camp. They departed as young boys and returned as proud Jewish young men.

Joining the Creative Arts Academy staff this year fills me with excitement. In an era dominated by screens and where standardized testing often overshadows creativity, nurturing artistic expression in our youth has become more crucial than ever. Creating a supportive environment where campers can explore their passions, forge lifelong friendships, and develop essential life skills is essential.

Nestled in the heart of West Chester, Pennsylvania, CAA stands as a haven where young artistic souls flourish, passions ignite, and creativity knows no bounds. Beyond being a Jewish summer camp, CAA serves as a sanctuary where creativity thrives, friendships bloom, and Jewish identity deepens.

CAA's unique blend of Jewish values, artistic exploration, and traditional summer camp experiences sets it apart. Surrounded by like-minded peers, campers collaborate on theater productions,

brainstorm film ideas, and share techniques in painting classes. These experiences instill teamwork and cooperation—skills that extend far beyond the camp's boundaries.

Simultaneously, CAA seamlessly weaves Jewish values and traditions into the artistic journey. As campers hone their artistic abilities, they also delve into their Jewish selves. Whether through painting, writing, dancing, singing, photography, or acting, they discover facets of their identity. The act of creation becomes a spiritual voyage, reinforcing their connection to Judaism and themselves. They recognize that their artistry is an expression of their soul, intertwining creativity and spirituality to foster a sense of purpose beyond the canvas.

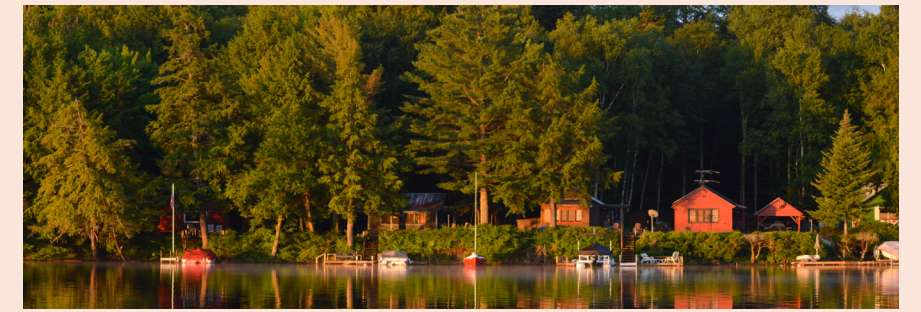
As with all URJ camps, Shabbat holds a central place in the camp experience. As campers gather on Friday evenings, they engage in candle lighting, blessings, and communal meals. These moments, along with their own creative Shabbat experiences, allow campers to deepen their connection to their Jewish heritage. They learn the importance of rest, reflection, and community, reinforcing their sense of identity.

Now, for those of you who, like me, have never attended camp and might be

uncertain about whether it's your thing, fear not! Nestled within the picturesque Westtown School campus, CAA boasts top-notch facilities. From a state-of-the-art athletic center to playing fields, a pool, a lake, and tennis courts, every space becomes a canvas for creativity. Additionally, CAA operates in three two-week sessions, providing the perfect opportunity to test the waters. Whether you're a budding artist, a seasoned performer, or simply curious, there's a place for you—that's my kind of camp!

I reached out to colleagues who have served on the faculty, and they described CAA as a place where creativity flourishes, friendships deepen, and self-expression becomes a symphony. From fostering a supportive community to instilling valuable life skills, from seamlessly integrating Jewish values to offering top-notch instruction, this camp provides an unparalleled opportunity for creative exploration and personal growth.

In a world that often stifles creativity, CAA stands as a beacon of inspiration. Join me this summer at Six Points Creative Arts Academy, where artistry meets spirituality, and dreams take flight. Feel free to contact me for more information at dcannizzaro@zedek.org. ✨



Summer Is My Season

Lindsey Dewey, Director of Engagement and Outreach

As I walked through Hyde Park a couple of days ago, I noticed the shop windows slowly shifting from winter and early spring to sunny, summery trends. Absentmindedly chatting with my friends, “I love that” seemed to effortlessly leave my internal dialogue and enter our casual conversation. We continued around the circle, peering from window to window and relishing the not-yet blazing sunshine. That’s when my friend remarked, “Of course you love it, you love everything about summer. It’s your season.”

I responded with a silly laugh and a shrug. However, upon further reflection, I’ve come to realize how true that statement really is. Summer is my favorite time of the year. Summer invigorates my spirit. Summer embodies who I am. Perhaps it’s the multitude of positive associations with May through July. Perhaps it’s the slightly slower pace of life. Regardless of the reason, we’re entering the time of year when I can spend a little more quality time with the people I care about and do a little less alongside them. The hustle and bustle of the school year fade away, and deadlines become a bit more forgiving. Summer makes me happy.

I’ve always recognized the value of being a summer camp counselor. I know I wouldn’t be the same person today if summer camp hadn’t played a role in my life. I’m delighted to see the studies and articles that emerge this time of year, asserting things like “choose camp over internships” and “camp teaches kids more than we realize.” Whether it’s day camp experiences or longer-term residential programs, camp empowers kids to think and make connections in ways that are often absent within the confines of classrooms and the school year. Summer allows kids to embrace creativity and fill their time with activities that bring them joy, not just obligations.

It’s been 15 years since I last spent a significant portion of my summer in the camp environment. It’s a consequence of aging and responsibility, I suppose. While I may not be able to shirk my adult responsibilities for months at a time, there are two things I can do to keep the summer sentiment alive. First, I send my own child to camp. When he explores The Florida Aquarium or plays golf with The First Tee, he’s learning how to pursue his passions, reminding me of the importance of supporting his growth and development. When people question how I could possibly “send him away” for camp, I can only think about how much he stands to gain when given the freedom to spread his wings. Second, we can continue to offer programming here at Schaarai Zedek that allows people to slow down, try something new, or enjoy a night of family time without the hassle of cooking dinner.

As we look ahead to the next few weeks, we hope you’ll find time to embrace these summer months. If you haven’t already shared a summer camp address with Naomi, please take a moment to do so (see back page), and she’ll ensure your campers receive some mail! We look forward to seeing you at CSZ or around town for upcoming events, and until then, enjoy the summer and don’t forget your sunscreen! ✨



Lifhackers

Unlocking Life's Potential: A Journey Through Tech, Tradition, and Holiness

Rabbi Michael Weiss

Even though I've been doing tech support for my grandparents for my entire life, I am no computer expert and certainly not a programmer. And so, as someone who admires expertise, I marvel at what programmers can do: taking the simplest pieces of information that exist, ones and zeroes, and turning them into a useful tool for productivity or a beautiful work of digital, interactive art. Using special skills and their own special languages, they create something wholly new. And even as they need to work within the limitations of their device, some of the most impressive works of technological genius were developed on systems that were thousands of times less sophisticated than what we use today. Like in Genesis, where there was once chaos, there is now order and creation.

I believe any story can have a Jewish connection, which is why I want to share this one. Over dinner one day, I found myself watching an interview with a man named Andy Gavin who co-founded the game development studio, Naughty Dog Inc. (named after Andy's naughty dog, Morgan), along with his partner Jason Rubin (who, yes, is Jewish!). In the mid-1990s, they had conceived of making a new video game called Crash Bandicoot, where you play as a wacky Loony

Toons-style marsupial navigating a world of danger. Their idea, making one of the first games of its kind with three-dimensional graphics, was a big one, considering most of the devices available to consumers wouldn't have the power to run the game they wanted to make. So, having received a prototype for Sony's upcoming game console, the PlayStation, they began to put the system through its paces. At first, they were convinced that the PlayStation was simply not powerful enough to do what they wanted, but they found that using creative technical shortcuts, digging into the depths of the console, and pushing it to its maximum, they were able to bring Crash Bandicoot to life, full of expressive animated characters, bright, detailed environments, and frenetic, challenging gameplay. In a sense, they optimized the console to bring out its fullest potential and build what is now a beloved classic.

So what's Jewish about Crash Bandicoot, aside from Jason Rubin? Naughty Dog's philosophy! As Andy Gavin described, Naughty Dog sought "to leave no stone unturned, no byte of memory unused...If it existed in the machine, whether we were supposed to use it or not, whether there was some crazy trick to use it or not, we would figure out how to make the most of it." Just as Gavin and Rubin optimized the PlayStation, Judaism helps us to optimize life itself. Many of us miss so much

of life's potential by letting opportunities for growth or holy connection pass us by, by letting seemingly mundane moments remain mundane, and neglecting to give gratitude for all our blessings. Judaism gives us the tools to take every little moment in our day, every obscure corner of our lives and make them holy. We have blessings we offer at every meal and for almost anything unique we can encounter in life, from rainbows to amazing animals. We have rituals for every moment of the day, from using the bathroom to kissing a mezuzah as we walk out the door. And we have traditions that speak about every subject under the sun. Almost anything you may experience, someone in Jewish tradition has done the same and found a way to make it meaningful.

Judaism lets us maximize our lives and find holiness in everything, if we have the tools, wisdom, and desire to do so. Our Torah helps teach us how to live a good life and when we keep our eyes open for opportunities to make our life and the lives of the people around us better, we're helping reality live up to our highest aspirations for it. So let us turn over every stone, while seeking out the mundane and making it special. Let us cultivate awareness of the blessings in our lives and seek to share them with others. Let us push our lives to the limit and be the holy people making a holy world, just as God envisioned. ✨

Sisterhood

Beth Levin & Sharon Weiss, Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Our Sisterhood comprises amazing, talented, dedicated, caring women who believe in our mission to promote closer fellowship among its members and provide gatherings for religious, social, and educational activities.

As the 2023-2024 presidency term culminates, we wish to acknowledge and thank Beth Levin for her service as she concludes her two-year term as Co-President of Schaarai Zedek Sisterhood and three years of service on the WRJ North American Board. Beth has been and continues to be a pillar of support, and we are grateful for the work she has done and appreciative of her dedication and love for our Sisterhood.

Our Sisterhood and WRJ encourage those who want to get involved to bring their creativity, individuality, and passions to our Board and Committees. As an example, with a passion for social action and advocacy, Beth joined the Education to Action (E2A) Committee on the WRJ board to help bring information regarding social action issues and advocacy projects to the wider WRJ membership. As Sisterhood President, Beth encouraged more social advocacy programming.

Beth has generously given of her time and talents to support and mentor our sisters to ensure others learn and grow. We are grateful for her continued commitment and look forward to her joining the ranks of our past presidents as a trusted advisor.

A truly great leader is hard to find, difficult to part with, and impossible to forget. Thank you, Beth! ✨



Opening Hours

Monday	9 AM - 12 PM
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	4 PM - 6 PM
Thursday	10 AM - 2 PM
Friday	Closed
Saturday	Closed
Sunday (during Religious School)	8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Upcoming Events

- May 2: Social Action Draws for Paws
- May 17: Sisterhood Board Installation Luncheon
- May 20: Book Club, "The Covenant of Water" by Abraham Verghese
- May 30 to June 2: WRJ Fried Women's Conference in New Orleans

Brotherhood

Robert Applebaum,
Brotherhood President

As we enter the spring season and reflect on the year so far, we are excited about what we have accomplished at the Brotherhood and look forward to the rest of the year. Our events continue to grow in both quality and size, and we love bringing our congregants and their friends together.

We had a fantastic time at the Brotherhood Brew-Haha in March at Rollin' Oats Market. We schmoozed and enjoyed the beautiful weather (and each other's company) while sampling several different beers and indulging in a delicious meal. The event was great not only because of the camaraderie but also because we were

able to support a local Tampa business. We look forward to more of these types of events in the future.

On Wednesday, April 10, we traveled to the Tampa Bay Automobile Museum in Pinellas Park for a guided, behind-the-scenes tour. This event provided the opportunity to see and learn about one of the Tampa Bay area's most interesting museums and to discover its unique collection. The tour was followed by dinner at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse. Great fun was had by all.

The final scheduled Brotherhood event of the school year will be on May 9 at Shuffle in Seminole Heights. Come join us for lively shuffleboard competition alongside delicious food and beverages. RSVP information will be sent

out by email and is also listed online at www.zedek.org/brotherhood.

We are also looking forward to the Brotherhood Shabbat Service on May 17 at the Synagogue. The Brotherhood will sponsor the Oneg, and several members of the Brotherhood will be in attendance to schmooze and support good times and a great service.

On a personal note, I want to thank everyone for their support of the Brotherhood! I love the organization that we have built and look forward to seeing it grow and evolve to further support the synagogue and its members. We have had a wonderful year. We are excited for the summer and to return in the fall with more exciting events and togetherness. ✨



Thank you to all our amazing Schaarai Zedek friends for making Purim such a huge success this year!

We hope everyone had an amazing time at our Purim Spiel, Casino Night, and Carnival!

To view more photos, visit www.zedek.org/photo-gallery.




Flom Religious School

Debbie Steinfeld
Religious School Director

Can you believe the school year is almost over? It's been a fantastic year of learning and fun! May 5th marks the last day of the school year. Over the past two months, our students have enjoyed learning about Purim and Passover. Our confirmation class has been diligently preparing for their confirmation service, scheduled for May 19th. Information regarding registration for next year will be emailed to you in the coming weeks, so keep an eye out for that.

Important Dates:

- May 5: Last day of Religious School
- May 19: 9th Grade Confirmation
- September 7: Religious School Family Dinner, Open House, and Family Services
- September 9: First day of Religious School

Interested in teaching next year?

Are you passionate about Judaism and enjoy spending time with wonderful children? Consider becoming a teacher or substitute teacher at Flom Religious School on Sunday mornings! It's easy and enjoyable. We provide lesson plans and materials for you. Join our team and make a difference. For more information, contact me at (813) 876-2377, ext. 246, or email dsteinfeld@zedek.org. ✨

Amy Gail Buchman Preschool



May 2024

- May 1-3: Muffins with Moms & Special Friends
- May 6-10: Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 22: Pre-K Graduation Ceremony**
- May 23: Last Day of School**
- May 31: Open House / Meet the Teacher

* Indicates school is closed / ** Indicates school is closing early

School Shabbat Schedule

- 9:30-9:50 AM: Pre-K & Threes
- 10:00-10:15 AM: Toddlers & Twos

You are cordially invited to attend the
2024/5784 Confirmation
Sunday, May 19, at 10 AM

<u>Confirmand</u>	<u>Parents</u>
Joaquin Orion Acanda	Elyse Michele Acanda
Alyssa Black-Diamond	Hilary Black & Jeff Diamond
Arielle Black-Diamond	Hilary Black & Jeff Diamond
Emmet Cohen	Julia & David Cohen
Benjamin Reilly Corcoran	Erin & Patrick Corcoran
Samantha Felice Iglesias	Dr. Lisa Gamell & Stephen Iglesias
Violet Jonas	Jenie Liang Jonas & Brian Jonas
Robert Langlass	Rick & Jennifer Langlass
Lilah Skye Majors	Cari & Paul Majors
Gabbie Noyes	Bill & Laurie Noyes
Ian Pegler	Jennifer & Jeffrey Pegler
Joely Gwen Selbst	Megan & Jeremy Selbst
Danielle M. Stein	Abe & Meghan Stein
Charlie Watts	Francine & John Watts

Lifecycles

B'nei Mitzvah

Carter Morgan

Parents: Courtney & Larry Morgan
May 4, 2024

Michael Harris

Parents: Beth & David Harris
May 11, 2024

Lauren Schmelzer

Parents: Shannon & Scott Schmelzer
May 11, 2024

Asher Feinman

Parents: Rachel Feinman & Daniel Feinman
May 18, 2024

Blake Pegler

Parents: Jen & Jeff Pegler
May 25, 2024

Sydney Cymant

Parents: Amy & David Cymant
June 1, 2024

Maxwell Chasin

Parents: Jennifer & Jonathan Chasin
June 8, 2024

Abram Fisher

Parents: Megan & Theodore Fisher
June 15, 2024

Welcome New Members

Alexandria & Eric Bialik
Berenice Leal & Marc Chodosh
Megan Birnholz & Alex Couture
Lynn Finkelstein
Parker Freedman

Devon & Daniel Greene
Beverly Heiser
Regina & Ken Levine
Roberta & Jeffrey Malickson

Mazel Tov

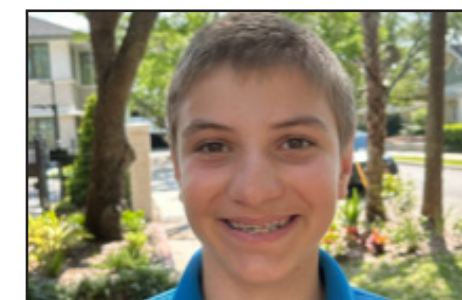
Tampa JCCs and Federation celebrated the unwavering dedication of remarkable individuals within the medical, financial services, entrepreneurial, real estate, and legal sectors at the Professional Societies Dinner & Award Ceremony. Congratulations to **Jim Shimberg** for his outstanding contributions to the Real Estate Society, and to **Ashley Simon** for her remarkable achievements within the Cardozo Society.



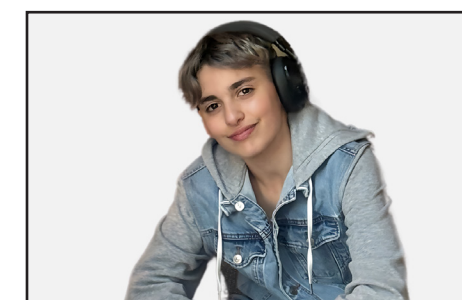
Maxwell Chasin



Asher Feinman



Abram Fisher



Carter Morgan



Lauren Schmelzer

JOIN OUR CARING COMMUNITY

The Caring Community is a group of congregants who are dedicated to providing support and compassion to their fellow members. We offer a variety of outreach services, including phone calls, cards, and visits.

We are looking for volunteers who are interested in making a difference in the lives of others. Whether you can commit to a one-time project or an ongoing commitment, your time and energy are greatly appreciated.

More Information: Contact Rabbi Weiss

☎ (813) 876-2377, ext. 229 ✉ mweiss@zedek.org

Calendar Highlights

Please visit www.zedek.org/RSVP for more information and to register for all events!

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 7 PM



Off-to-Camp Shabbat & Oneg

Celebrate summer with a special blessing and gift for those heading to camp this summer, as well as honoring the high school class of 2024 with blessings for reaching this milestone! Enjoy a fun camp-style Oneg after services.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2 PM



Peter Pan at Straz

Join us for a magical daytime showing of *Peter Pan*! Orchestra-level seats are available for our group, but seating is limited. Tickets are \$80 per person.

MONDAY, MAY 6, 9 AM



Florida CraftArt Mural Tour

Enjoy a Walking Mural Tour through St. Petersburg's Central Arts District. Hear the inside stories of the making of over 30 murals found in the four-block tour. We'll depart by bus from CSZ at 9 a.m. and enjoy the tour and lunch together as a group. The \$20 fee covers museum entry and the tour; lunch will be separate. Expect 60-90 minutes of walking with limited seating opportunities.

MONDAY, MAY 6, 6:30 PM



Yom HaShoah Event

Join the community at the Shanna and Bryan Glazer JCC to commemorate Yom HaShoah, honoring the memories of those lost, celebrating survivors and rescuers, and unveiling the winners of the Shine A Light on Antisemitism Youth Art Contest.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 12 PM



Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Weiss

Explore false messiahs in Jewish history. From obscure figures to prominent ones like Shabbetai Tzvi, these charismatic individuals claimed to bring redemption. Discover why these movements emerged and what they reveal about misplaced hope in today's world. Join us for a thought-provoking discussion on Messiah lore.

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 11:30 AM



Senior Luncheon - Movie Matinee

Enjoy lunch followed by a screening of the heartwarming film *Billy Elliot*. This film follows the inspiring journey of a young boy pursuing his passion for dance against the backdrop of challenging circumstances.

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 7 PM



Shabbat Honoring Jews by Choice

Join us for a special Shabbat honoring Jews by Choice! A blessing will be extended to all who have chosen to join our community through conversion. Come share in the celebration of diversity and unity within our congregation.

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 5 PM



Shabbat Honoring Educators

Teachers and their families are invited to join us for a Shabbat Dinner beginning at 5 PM. At the following Shabbat Service, a blessing will be offered to all educators.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 6 - 8 PM



Popsicles in the Park

Looking to start your summer on a sweet note? Join us at Hyde Park Village for a sugary celebration! Come grab some coupons and indulge in a delectable dessert on us.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 6 PM



Family Movie Night - Barbie

Explore gender roles in Judaism alongside insights into how Barbie has influenced these stereotypes over the past 65 years. Kids will watch *Migration*.

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 7 PM



Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Along with Beth Am and Kol Ami, observe Shavuot with an evening of study, offering participants the chance to share brief lessons on Jewish or related topics.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 12 PM



Shavuot Lunch & Learn

Explore various perspectives on the authorship of the Torah in a session titled "Who Wrote the Torah?" Attend with curiosity as we delve into the celebration of Torah's revelation, examining its origins.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 6 PM



Movie Night - Golda

Delve into the comparisons between the 1973 Yom Kippur War and the ongoing conflict in Gaza. Explore the lessons to be gleaned from Golda Meir's response to unforeseen attacks from Israel's neighbors and her relationship with the U.S.

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn (Zoom) 6 PM SchZFTY End-of-Year Event 7 PM Active Adults Trivia	1 PM Game Afternoon 6 PM B'nei Mitzvah Family Program 6:30 PM Sisterhood Event National Day of Prayer	5:30 PM Tot Shabbat 7 PM Off-to-Camp Shabbat Service with Teen Band, Honoring High School Seniors	9 AM SchZFTY Mystery Bus 9 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Carter Morgan Bar Mitzvah 2 PM Peter Pan @ Straz
8 AM Blood Drive 9 AM Religious School	9 AM Active Adults Day Trip 6 PM Yom HaShoah Event at Shanna & Bryan Glazer JCC Yom HaShoah		12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn (Zoom)	12 PM Lunch & Learn 6 PM Brotherhood Shuffle Event	4 PM Allegro Hyde Park Shabbat Service 5:45 PM Primary Shabbat Service 7 PM Shabbat Service	9 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Michael Harris Bar Mitzvah 12 PM Youth Pottery Pop-Up 4:30 PM Lauren Schmelzer Bat Mitzvah
	6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting		12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn (Zoom)	11:30 AM Senior Luncheon 6:30 PM 20s+30s Tampa Tarpons Game	12 PM Sisterhood Luncheon & Installation 7 PM Brotherhood Shabbat Service	9 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Shabbat Yoga 10:30 AM Bagel Minyan 4:30 PM Asher Feinman Bar Mitzvah
9 AM Active Adults Pickleball 10 AM Religious School Confirmation Service	12 PM Sisterhood Book Club 7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting		12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn (Zoom)	12 PM ROMEOS + Jew-liets	6 PM Shabbat Dinner Honoring Jews by Choice 7 PM Shabbat Honoring Jews by Choice	9 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Blake Pegler Bar Mitzvah
			12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn (Zoom) 6 PM Summer Kickoff Event	7 PM Pickleball Round Robin Play	5 PM Shabbat Dinner for Educators 7 PM Shabbat Service Honoring Educators	
Lag BaOmer	Memorial Day					

JUNE 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						9 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Sydney Cymant Bat Mitzvah 6:30 PM Parents Night Out
			6 PM Popsicles in the Park Yom Y'rushalayim	1 PM Game Afternoon	5:30 PM Annual Dinner 6:15 PM Annual Meeting 7 PM Shabbat Service & Installation	9 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Maxwell Chasin Bar Mitzvah 6 PM Movie Night
9 AM Active Adults Pickleball	6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting	7:30 PM Tikkun Leil Shavuot Event @ Congregation Kol Ami Erev Shavuot	10:30 AM Yizkor Service 12 PM Shavuot Lunch & Learn Shavuot		4 PM Allegro Hyde Park Shabbat Service 7 PM Shabbat Service	9 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Abram Fisher Bar Mitzvah
				11:30 AM Senior Luncheon 7 PM Pickleball Round Robin Play First Day of Summer	7 PM Shabbat Service	9 AM Torah Study 9:15 AM Shabbat Yoga 10:30 AM Bagel Minyan
	12 PM Sisterhood Book Club 7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting			12 PM ROMEOS + Jew-liets 6 PM Movie Night	7 PM Shabbat Service	9 AM Torah Study 3 PM 20s+30s Painting with a Twist
Father's Day						

Donations

It is a common Jewish tradition to make a charitable donation both in times of joy and in times of sorrow. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness, and your support of our congregation. Schaarai Zedek is strengthened by your support, and your gift makes a difference – each and every day. **The following gifts were received from February 1 to March 31, 2024.**

ABE AND SADIE ZBAR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in honor of the birth of Jonah Kushner from **Marjorie & Myron Graff**

AMY GAIL BUCHMAN PRESCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Dorothy & Burt Haskins**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Janet & Arthur Simon**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Janet & Michael Kass**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Lois & Jay Older**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Reena & Marvin Oster**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Roberta & Gary Zamore**
in memory of Linda Wiemken from **Sandra & Errol Pegler**
with gratitude to Cookie and Booky for their generosity, warmth, and hospitality from **Sylvia & Jeffrey Kaufman**

AMY GAIL BUCHMAN PRESCHOOL FUND

from **Joseph Stern**
in honor of Booky and Cookie Buchman and in appreciation for the outstanding experience my grandson Charles is enjoying at the Preschool from **Norman Stallings**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Anne & Ian Bernstein**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Gerri & Steve, Allen & Dorilee, and Savannah, Ryan, and Shelby Savitt**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Heidi & Scott Shimberg**
in memory of Linda Weimken, mother of Danielle Weissman from **Jen & Jeff Pegler**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Jodi Cohen Perry & Family**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Jolene & Neil Fabricant**
in memory of Linda Wienken from **Jolene & Neil Fabricant**
in memory of Peter Brudny from **Jolene & Neil Fabricant**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Karen & Michael Linsky**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Kay & Gerald Friedlander**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Laureen & Scott Jaffe**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Lee & Saul Rachelson**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Marcia & Jack Reiber**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Marcia and Jack Cohen**
in memory of Linda Wiemken from **Marcia and Jack Cohen**
in memory of Linda Wiemken from **Renee & Mark Wiskup**

ASSOCIATE RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

in honor of Rabbi Weiss from **Alfred N. & Rose W. Schiff Family Endowment Fund**
in honor of Gage and Hampton's B'nai Mitzvah from **Kellie & Michael Haber**
in honor of Purim from **Margarita Almorza**
in memory of Selma Bauer from **Adrienne Sundheim**
in memory of Marvin Roseman from **Nancy & Peter Berman**

BIRNHOLZ EDUCATION FUND

in honor of the birthday of Rabbi Richard Birnholz from **Adele & Ralph Ribas**
in memory of Paul Weitzenkorn from **Linda & Harris Estroff**
in memory of Paul Weitzenkorn from **Marianne Fisher & David Moore**

CANTOR DISCRETIONARY FUND

in honor of Gabriel Salzer's Bar Mitzvah from **Abby & Michael Salzer**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Abigail & Jonathan Katzeff**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Al Felman**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Alfred N. & Rose W. Schiff Family Endowment Fund**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Alicia LeVine**
in honor of Cantor's 10th anniversary at Schaarai Zedek from **Cynthia & Fred Weiss**
in honor of Cantor's 10 years of beautiful music from **Elaine Stupp**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Evelyn Straus**
in honor of Cantor's 10th anniversary from **Faith Alexander**
in honor of Cantor's 10+ year anniversary from **Grace & Sam Puterman**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year Anniversary from **Heidi & Scott Shimberg**
in honor of Gage and Hampton's B'nai Mitzvah from **Kellie & Michael Haber**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Lois & Jay Older**
in honor of Cantor Cannizzaro's 10th anniversary from **Lori & David Schwartz**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Marcia & Anatoly Naroditsky**
in honor of Purim from **Margarita Almorza**
in honor of Cantor's anniversary from **Margarita Almorza**
in honor of Cantor's 10th Anniversary from **Michelle Wilson-Levy**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Nancy Tishler**
in honor of Cantor's 10 (11) years of adding beauty to our services through her singing from **Suzanne Gellens**
in memory of Rose Cannizzaro from **Beverly & Michael Stevens**
in memory of Rose Cannizzaro from **Cynthia & Fred Weiss**
in memory of Rose Cannizzaro and in honor of Cantor's milestone anniversary from **Dr. & Mrs. Stuart Goldsmith**
in memory of Rose Cannizzaro from **Margarita Almorza**
in memory of Rose Cannizzaro from **Nancy Tishler**
in memory of Rose Cannizzaro from **Pat Taback**
in memory of Rose Cannizzaro from **Shelly & Chuck Segal**
in memory of Conrad Weller from **Yvette & Rodolfo Eichberg**

CEMETERY FUND

from **Joseph Stern**

ENDOWMENT FUND

in honor of Debbie Rosenthal from **Greg & Anne Yadley**

FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in honor of Jonah James Kushner from **Miriam and Clifford Cohen**

RABBI DAVID L. ZIELONKA CAMP COLEMAN FUND

in memory of Rose Cannizzaro from **Cindy Spahn**
in memory of Paul Weitzenkorn from **Janet & Michael Kass**

Schaarai Zedek offers a variety of donation opportunities so all members can participate in the mitzvah of tzedakah at whatever level is comfortable.

For more information about our different funds and various ways to give, please visit: www.zedek.org/donate.

RABBI EMERITUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

from **Hope Cohen Barnett Leadership Institute**
in honor of Rabbi Birnholz from **Elaine & Otto Weitzenkorn**
in memory of Israel Berman from **Nancy & Peter Berman**
with gratitude to Rabbi Birnholz for his support and comfort during the loss of Astral Benjamin Freeman from **Dr. Tom and Susan S. Freeman**

SENIOR RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

from **Cookie & Booky Buchman**
in appreciation for the Bris of Jonah James Kushner from **Alyce & David Kushner**
in appreciation for Charlie Polsky's Bar Mitzvah from **The Polsky Family**
in honor of Rabbi Simon from **Alfred N. & Rose W. Schiff Family Endowment Fund**
in honor of Cantor's 10 year anniversary from **Allen Root**
in honor of Tom & Linda Bornstein's 40th anniversary from **Cynthia & Fred Weiss**
in honor of Gage and Hampton's B'nai Mitzvah from **Kellie & Michael Haber**
in memory of Louis Greenberg from **Allen Root**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Allen Root**
in memory of Edith Greenberg from **Allen Root**
in memory of Glenda Messer from **Barbara Simmonds**
in memory of Betty Cohen from **Betty Solomon**
in memory of Mary Kramer from **Betty Solomon**
in memory of Paul J Weitzenkorn from **Elaine & Otto Weitzenkorn**
in memory of Mark Goodman from **Gary Gould**
in memory of Paul J Weitzenkorn from **Judy Miller**

SENIORS ENDOWMENT FUND

in honor of Alicia LeVine's 90th birthday from **Dorothy & Burt Haskins**

SISTERHOOD FLORAL FUND

in memory of Stanley H. Cohen from **Adele & Ralph Ribas**
in memory of Charles Berlin from **Alicia LeVine**
in memory of Benjamin Adlin from **Anita & Howard Adlin**
in memory of Lillian Levy from **Anita & Howard Adlin**
in memory of Edmund Levy from **Anita & Howard Adlin**
in memory of Dr. Albert L. Saphier from **Anita Saphier**
in memory of Al and Renee Freedman from **Anita Saphier**
in memory of Ruth Getz from **Barbara Rosenthal**
in memory of Esther Kravatz from **Barbara Rosenthal**
in memory of Ernest Markowitz from **Carla & Howard Markowitz**
in memory of Ben Safer from **Carole Cherry**
in memory of Sam Cherry from **Carole Cherry**
in memory of the anniversary of the passing of Jerry Radin from **Diane & Ron Porat**
in memory of Esther Roffer from **Dr. & Mrs. Stuart Goldsmith**
in memory of Monroe Roffer from **Dr. & Mrs. Stuart Goldsmith**
in memory of Ruth G Weitzenkorn from **Elaine & Otto Weitzenkorn**
in memory of Milton "Mike" Simmons from **Faith & Charles Simmons**
in memory of Henry Ronson from **Jerilyn & Stuart Goldsmith**
in memory of Rhoda Karpay and George Karpay from **Joel Karpay**
in memory of Murray Fabricant from **Jolene & Neil Fabricant**
in memory of Stanley Dreier from **Joy & Gerald Lolli**

in memory of David Vozick from **Julie & Warren Fisher**
in memory of Rachel Lea Borkowf from **Kailie & Maurice Shaw**
in memory of Harold I. Borkowf from **Kailie & Maurice Shaw**
in memory of Nathan Weinbren from **Leigh Ann & Don Weinbren**
in memory of Charles Berlin from **Lisa & Marc LeVine**
in memory of Bernard Rohatiner from **Lisa Rohatiner**
in memory of Sol Wittenberg from **Lisa Simpson & Richard Wittenberg**
in memory of Francis Rosner, Gertrude Rosner, Lester Older, and Gertrude Older from **Lois & Jay Older**
in memory of Dr. Thomas Newman from **Lyriss & Eric Newman**
in memory of Rose Evelyn Weiner from **Lyriss & Eric Newman**
in memory of Elaine Newman from **Lyriss & Eric Newman**
in memory of Helen Schanfarber from **Lyriss & Eric Newman**
in memory of Murray Israeloff from **Marcia Israeloff & Paul Jacobsen**
in memory of Norman Linder from **Marcie & Owen Linder**
in memory of Rose Moore from **Marianne Fisher & David Moore**
in memory of Milton Appel from **Marianne Fisher & David Moore**
in memory of Suzanne Roseman from **Nancy & Peter Berman**
in memory of Alexis Buchman from **Paula & Nathan Davis**
in memory of Julius Saunders from **Stephanie & Alan Saunders**
in memory of Alexis Morgan Saunders from **Stephanie & Alan Saunders**
in memory of Joe Scionti from **Teddi & Benjie Bloomston**
in memory of Minna Ebert from **Wendy Katz**

SISTERHOOD SOCIAL ACTION FUND

in honor of Cindy Spahn's Tikkun Olam recognition from Federation from **Cynthia & Fred Weiss**
in honor of Cindy Spahn for being awarded the Tikkun Olam Award from **Diane & Ron Porat**
in honor of Cantor's 10 Year Anniversary at Congregation Schaarai Zedek from **Diane & Ron Porat**

SUSTAINING FUND

in honor of Paula Zielonka's birthday from **Jacqueline & Sheldon Fleschman**
in honor of Dr. Walter Woolf's birthday from **Sandy & Dick Turkel**
in honor of Cindy Spahn from **Sheila Solomon Rudd**

RABBI RICHARD J. BIRNHOLZ

Torah Circle

ANNUAL GIVING

If you would like to contribute to the 2023-2024 Rabbi Richard J. Birnholz Torah Circle, please visit zedek.org/torahcircle.

If you have questions about donating, please contact Marc LeVine at mlevine@zedek.org or (813) 876-2377 ext. 206.



Congregation Schaarai Zedek

3303 West Swann Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33609-4643

TEMPLE OFFICERS

Carla Markowitz, President

David Glickman, VP Membership & Programming

Ellie Probasco, VP Religion, Education, and Youth

Don Weinbren, VP Administration & Building

Charles Weissman, VP Fundraising

Dan Singer, Treasurer

Melinda Sheer, Financial Secretary

Allison Polender, Secretary

Scott Shimberg, Immediate Past President

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Deborah Cannizzaro, Cantor

Michael Weiss, Associate Rabbi

Richard J. Birnholz, Rabbi Emeritus

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Amanda Marks, Executive Coordinator

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Debra Zepeda, Dir. of Operations & Membership

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Naomi Litwak, Dir. of Youth Programming

Sarah Smith, Program Coordinator

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Debbie Steinfeld, Religious School Director

Heather Baker, Religious School Assistant

PRESCHOOL

Lauren Kiernan, Preschool Director

Aida Rozenblum, Assistant Director



MYSTERY BUS RIDE

SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, MAY 4TH

OPEN TO 8TH-12TH GRADES • 7AM-11PM

ARE YOU GOING TO CAMP?

Let Naomi know when and where your child(ren) will be at sleepaway camp and she'll write them a letter!

Submit the details to Naomi using this form!

Have a wonderful summer!