

# Bulletin

#### OCTOBER 2020 TISHREI-CHESHVAN 5781



# Rabbi's Message -Marc Ekstrand

#### Friends,

We have entered into a new year, 5781. As this article reaches you, we have not quite finished with our fall marathon of festivals. There are many people to whom

I am deeply grateful for helping to create the space for the sacredness of the High Holy Days when our Temple, sacred place, has been closed because of the pandemic. First among these deserving thanks is **Sherry Barnes**. Sherry is always eager for new things and the challenges of this year's virtual services were no exception. From the very beginning of the pandemic, Sherry and I have been determined not to let anything get in our way. Our goal has been to make our Zoom feel just like we are all sitting together. Of course, it never will feel exactly like that. But, to try to do anything less would not satisfy the spiritual needs of our community. We attacked each problem together as it came along. Sherry's partnership in this effort has been invaluable.

One of the most special moments of the High Holy Days for me is the Havdalah directly after Neilah at the end of Yom Kippur. We hear that final T'kiah Gedolah. Then our religious school students kindle Havdalah candles from the light of the yizkor candles we kindled to remember our loved ones. We bless the juice or wine, breathe in the spices, bless our special Mazzella Challah and break our fast. The juxtaposition of our ancestors, our most sacred day, our most precious gifts, our children, and communal celebration is exquisite. I could not bear to let this image go without something to sustain my hope until we can gather together again. My hope in creating the holiday gift bags, which included a Havdalah candle, was that you would be able to bring this chain of rituals into your own home. My thanks to Gail Weber, Karen Rosenberg, and Lois Steinman for organizing the gift bags and the host of friends who helped deliver them.

Speaking of our students, my deep gratitude to **April D'Amato.** Her creativity, depth of faith and enthusiasm for teaching and learning has been such a gift to our community. April has been the power behind our family service programs for the past two years. She continuously plays a

greater role in our programming and religious school, which uplifts us all.

Each fall, it is always a challenge getting religious school started while we simultaneously prepare for and engage in the most sacred Jewish time. During these times, I am doubly thankful for the tireless efforts of Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler. This year covid-19 became the catalyst for the next stage of development of our Religious School curriculum. Armi and Jennifer launched our partnership with Shalom Learning. Shalom Learning gives our teachers pedagogical framework, a vast toolbox of resources, and a network of educators so that they can concentrate more on delivering high quality education and less on building their own programs from the ground up. The essence of teaching is in that space between teacher and student. Shalom Learning puts our focus completely into that space. Hooray to Armi and Jennifer to meeting their covid-19 challenges with solutions that will propel our religious school into the future.

I can hardly go a day without gratefulness for **Roberta Reisner-Winograd.** She is always thinking ahead, reminding me of things we've forgotten and especially the things we'd like to forget but just need to get done. She lends a hand wherever she sees need. There are so many moving parts in our organization. Roberta has been essential in keeping all these parts moving.

A group of three techies stepped up to help produce our Zoom services. Lisa Gilbert, Adam Kaufman and Amanda Rowe took hold of many aspects that allowed Sherry and me to concentrate on the spiritual gravity of the High Holy Days. They made so many things just flow so smoothly. Everything we did this year was a first, with very few opportunities to practice. Our techies asked questions, adapted, and were right on the buttons at every turn. Thanks, techies.

Last, I want to thank you. If you are reading this, you are an essential part of our High Holy Days being special this year. I feel that our sense of community was not in the least bit stunted by the pandemic. This was because of your dedication to our mission and your patience in difficult times. This pandemic has been terribly hard on me and my family as I know it has been on you and yours. I have felt you have been with me all these months of quarantine and zooming. I am most grateful for you.

All my blessings to you,

Rabbi Marc

# President's Message



Below is a copy of the speech that I delivered on Rosh Hashanah morning, 5781.

What a long, strange year it's been! If you had told me last year that I would be the Temple president this year, and that I would be addressing the congregation from my din-

ing room table, I would have said you were crazy! I took over the presidency of Temple Emanu-El unexpectedly in January, was away on a vacation (remember those?) for most of February, and then, as we all know, in March the world as we knew it came to a screeching halt. I often joke that I may be the first president in Temple Emanu-El history that no one has actually seen outside of a Zoom screen! However, operations at Temple Emanu-El didn't skip a beat. On March 11, the board made the decision to suspend all inperson activity at the Temple due to the coronavirus pandemic. 48 hours later, on March 13, we had our first virtual Shabbat service, which was broadcast on YouTube to a sizable number of congregants. I remember the comfort that I felt watching that service during those dark days of fear and uncertainty. Here we are, 6 months later, experiencing a Rosh Hashanah service like we have never experienced before.

And yet, we remain very much a community. Over the past year, we have renewed contracts with our beloved Rabbi Marc and Cantorial Soloist Sherry. Rabbi Marc and Sherry were able to pivot almost seamlessly to life in a virtual world, and offered us inspiring Shabbat services, Torah study, Havdalah services, Book Club, and so much more. They have worked collaboratively with the clergy of Congregation Beth El of New London, Ahavath Achim of Colchester, Beth Jacob of Norwich, and Temple B'nai Israel of Willimantic to create combined holiday programming that is enjoyable, inspiring, and broadens our horizons while honoring our Reform Jewish tradition. These pluralistic efforts have been well-attended and enthusiastically received by the entire eastern Connecticut liberal Jewish community.

During the winter, we hosted some Coffee and Conversation groups where we gathered at the Temple or at congregants' homes (remember that?) to discuss areas in which Temple Emanu-El was doing well, and those on which we could improve. There was a lot of discussion about community partnerships. Congregants were largely positive about the potential of sharing space with our friends at Beth El under a long-term lease agreement. A significant number of congregants also liked the concept of a community campus, but expressed some concern with the implementation of such, noting that the project needed to be scaled properly to the

size of our community. At this time, I am pleased to report that the community campus committee has realized this as well, and the list of wants and needs has been scaled back to one that is more sustainable for a community of our size. I attend these community campus committee meetings and am pleased to report that Gail Weber was recently elected as the chairperson. Gail will bring her vast experience as a successful business owner and two-time past president of Temple Emanu-El to lead this committee and communicate pertinent information back to our board. Currently, an architect has been retained and the committee is in the beginning stages of working with them to flesh out our vision. The architects will then create a rendering of what a campus might look like for our community, and this will go to our board and, eventually, to the congregation for discussion and approval. As Rabbi Marc noted in his sermon last night, it is evident that that we are stronger together, and that the future of our Reform Jewish community lies in partnerships with other community organizations, both Jewish and non-Jewish. We also need to engage in what the Union for Reform Judaism calls "audacious hospitality", and offer an enthusiastic and loving welcome to Jews of color, LGBTQI Jews, Jews of all educational levels and socioeconomic status, and non-Jewish family members. If we don't see members who fit these descriptions, it is because we have not worked hard enough to eliminate barriers to their participation in our community.

During the summer, we participated in a COVID-19 Impact Survey offered through the URJ. This survey, which was detailed in my very lengthy September bulletin article, gave Temple leaders valuable information as to the pulse of the congregation. The Temple will continue to utilize URJ resources in the year to come, including participating in the full Congregational Benchmarking and Assessment Project. More info to come on that!

Several months ago, we launched a COVID-19 Task Force/Re-Entry Committee to determine what needs to occur before Temple Emanu-El can safely resume any in-person activities. The committee consists of myself, 2 physicians (Sandy Greenhouse and Andy Parad, who is also our VP), Barbara Wolfe, Religious School administrators Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler, Temple clergy and staff Rabbi Marc, Sherry Barnes, and Roberta Reisner-Winograd, Religious Practices chair Jo Michaelson, Lois Panikoff, and Building and Grounds VP Russell Sheikowitz. Together, we are reviewing a Guide to the Considerations for Re-Opening Synagogue Buildings that was published by a working group of the Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist movements.

# President's Message - Continued from page 2

Please know that our committee is utilizing evidence-based science, the experiences of other worship communities nation-wide, and Jewish values as the guidance in making these decisions. The most important value in Judaism is "pikuach nefesh", saving human life. This is the top priority of this committee! If erring on the side of the safety of our clergy, staff, and congregants results in me becoming the most unpopular president in Temple Emanu-El history, I am OK with that. I would rather have you alive to be mad at me. Being a leader is difficult. Being a leader during a global pandemic is not something that the Temple board or this committee chose, but we are charged with making the best decisions for Temple Emanu-El's future, and that involves a combination of compassion, trust in science, and swift action when warranted, such as we took when we closed the building on March 11. I pray that this is a mere blip in history, and that soon we will be occupying our building again--hugging, praying, singing, eating, and all of the things that we do best. Until then, I look forward to seeing all of you on Zoom, and I welcome your feedback.

Have a healthy, safe, and engaged New Year -- engaged in our Temple and in the world around us. And please -- make sure you VOTE on November 3. Even if you are not thrilled with either presidential candidate, the tragic loss of Ruth Bader Ginsburg yesterday reminds us that we are not just voting for our next president, but also for our next Supreme Court justices. Shana Tova.

Jo-el

# **Notes from Sherry Barnes**



As I write this, Rabbi Marc, Leslie Merwin, and I have finished Rosh HaShanah services and are preparing for Yom Kippur. Even though you could not be in the sanctuary with us, your voices were singing in my head and I loved seeing your faces at the end of the service. Covid has taught me a lot

about appreciating what we so often take for granted. Seeing everyone coming in through our doors, smiling, wishing each other Shanah tovah, people hugging each other, and feeling the wonderful, positive, energy in the room filled with your second family. Being on Zoom may not have been the way we imagined we would have embraced the High Holy Days this year, but I'm so grateful that we could come together virtually. We know that being safe this year is more important than being under the same roof together.

I'm grateful that Rabbi Marc had a vision, and the ability, to craft a meaningful service. I loved being able to watch and hear Carly Fleming play Kol Nidre so beautifully on her cello, and Jose Cordero blowing shofar for us, especially the final T'kiah G'dolah at the end of the Ne'ilah service. Being able to incorporate such special pieces into the service meant a lot. Next year on the High Holy Days, may we be praying together in person. That we hear Kol Nidre and the shofar blasts, the choir, our organist, and our voices come together in our sanctuary. Ken y'hi ratzon.... May it be so.

Autumn is here. My favorite time of year. It seems the skies

are bluer, evenings a bit chilly, and the days less humid. We also will be celebrating Sukkot, and Simchat Torah! Two holidays filled with joy! I'm hoping everyone will have a chance to build their own Sukkah and join us for Sukkot and Simchat Torah services! Simchat Torah will be a joint service with the area's liberal congregations. We are going to include a special Simchat Torah Cabaret! If you are interested in being a part of this special Cabaret, please contact me ASAP, at <a href="mailto:shirie3860@aol.com">shirie3860@aol.com</a> and let me know that you are interested. Your internet speed needs to be stable, or as I recently found out, connecting your computer to your modem with an ethernet cord, may help the stability of your streaming capabilities. Check the bulletin for more information on these special services.

B'havah,

#### Sherry



#### **Sukkot & Simchat Torah Services**

#### Sukkot Service and Picnic Lunch



Please join us for the Temple Sukkot Celebration on Friday night, October 2, at 7:00 P.M. We will enjoy the Sukkot worship service followed by shaking the lulav and Etrog in your own sukkah. See flyers in this bulletin.

Then there will be a Sukkot Morning Service on Saturday, October 3, at 10:00 A.M.

#### Simchat Torah

Music, Dancing, rejoicing, and celebrating...all the things we normally do that makes Simchat Torah so special. Join the

# RETURN THE MACHZORIM -- MONDAY, OCT 5

Please drop off on Monday, Oct. 5 the High Holiday Machzorim (Prayer book) between:

10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Or

6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Please return your books, so they do not get lost or damaged and so we have them for next year. **Thank you.** 



entire Jewish community in celebration of the Torah on Zoom, **Friday Evening, October 9, 7:00 P.M.** We will complete the yearly cycle of Torah reading and begin again.

There will be a CABARET! We need you to make it happen - bring your act: - musical acts, poetry readings, drama, or comedy skits - all are welcome just keep it to a few minutes. Email Sherry Barnes at <a href="mailto:Shirie3860@aol.com">Shirie3860@aol.com</a> with your contribution today so you may be included in the line up - don't delay!

There will also be a community **collaborative Festival Morning Service and Yizkor beginning at 10AM on Shabbat, October 10 at 10AM.** 

#### Condolences to...



#### Rabbi Aaron and Karen Rosenberg

on the passing of Aaron's mom,

**Libby Isaac** 

#### Mazel Toy to...



Frederick West

on the birth of his granddaughter

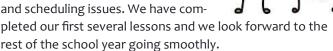
Michaela Rose Murphy

# Religious School 860-439-0406 | religiousschool@tewaterford.org

#### Shana Tova Umetukah!

Virtual religious school is off to a great start! Our teachers, faculty assistants and students navi-

faculty assistants and students navigated to their Sunday and Wednesday Zoom classrooms. It has been a learning curve for some, but we were able to troubleshoot through a few technical and scheduling issues. We have com-



We thank our teachers who made sure to include many interactive elements to their class, especially for our youngest students, who received care packages so that they could still enjoy a teacher-led arts and craft activity as part of their lesson. Special thanks to Rachel O'Brien, who donated art supplies for our students in Kitah Gan, Kitah Alef-Bet A, and Kitah Alef-Bet B. The Shalom Learning curriculum has our youngest learners exploring Jewish values and holidays through the senses. These students will experience the sights, sounds, tastes and feels that connect us to Jewish tradition and learning throughout the year.

The Jewish values theme of our Kitah Gimmel through Kitah Zayin Shalom Learning curriculum, from September through October, focuses on Teshuvah: taking responsibility for your actions. Each grade is approaching lesson material through age-appropriate context: Kitah Gimmel (Family), Dalet (Self), Hay (Peers), Vav (Community) and Zayin (World). Students are exposed to a variety of Judaic text sources, stories, videos and songs which invite vibrant discussion, creative exercises and activities.

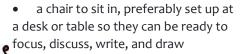
During these first weeks back-to-school, our students are reviewing Hebrew prayers and being assessed on their knowledge of the Alef Bet and their Hebrew reading skills so that teachers will be able to address each child's learning needs during the course of the year. Once all Kitah Gimmel through Kitah Zayin students have received their individual Shalom Learning portal logins, teachers may assign students extra reading practice which they can access independently in between class time. This is particularly valuable for those times when students miss class; they will be able to keep up. For more information about Shalom Learning, go to www.shalomlearning.org.If you have questions about how our school is implementing the program please contact us at religiousschool@tewaterford.org.

#### **Zoom Class Reminders**

With our new year and new curriculum, our teachers are very excited to teach, and with our compressed class time, we want to make sure your children get the most out of their experience. Please help your child come to class ready for

successful learning. Here's what they'll need:

sound (volume on high) and camera set up and 'on'



a quiet spot with minimal distractions (please, no pets, food, or other things that will divert attention from the class)

Friday, Oct 2 at 6:00-7:00 - Sukkot Family Activity led by Religious School - We will lead the children in designing and building a mini-sukkah (for them to host stuffed animals or dolls/toy figure friends) using materials found in their homes/yard. Everyone will continue to work on them after the gathering. Over the next several days, families can share photographs of their finished sukkah to religiouss-chool@tewaterford.org. We will then post their sukkot images in a virtual sukkah on the religious school part of the Temple website so they can see all the sukkot their religious school friends built. Over time we will see the virtual sukkah become decorated with the submissions. Maybe we can share a link in the following week's weekly email announcement so our congregants can see the finished virtual sukkah.

Friday, Oct 16 at 6:00-7:30 - Fun Family Socials led by Religious School - Every month, usually on the third Friday evening, we will host a fun family night so the kids have a reason to socialize with their religious school friends. It will be an evening to play games and activities that will help the kids/families get to know each other better. Or during a month when we are hosting Havdalah on a Saturday night, it would be the third Sat instead of the third Friday night.

Friday, Nov 6 at 6:45-7:30 - First Friday Tot Shabbat & Tefillah Time with Rabbi Marc and Hazzan Sherry - Every month, on the first Friday evening, kids 6th grade and younger would be encouraged to attend. The first 20 minutes will be a Tot Shabbat story time and activity (Kitah Gan, Alef and Bet) followed by the the next 25 minutes of Tefillah Time for older grades (Kitah Gimmel through Vav) abridged service where Rabbi and Sherry discuss different aspects of the Shabbat service each month, like the prayer practice the kids normally did in assembly at religious school.

We wish your family a joyous Sukkot and Simchat Torah this month. Please plan to join us as we celebrate with Temple Emanu-El during Erev Sukkot on Friday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m. and with the wider Jewish Community for Erev Simchat Torah on Friday, October 9 at 7:00 p.m. Please see the weekly Temple email news for zoom invite links.

Chag sameach,

**Armi and Jennifer** 

# Sisterhood -- Merrill Mazzella & Gail Weber, Co-Presidents

#### Hi Sisterhood Friends,

As we move into fall, Sisterhood continues to offer events to help keep us all connected. If you have any ideas for future programs, please email us. We are always looking for fresh ideas.

Our next **Book Club is on Wed., Oct 21 at 7:00pm.** Cécile Feldman leads a lively discussion and the women have enjoyed participating. The next book is <u>The Island of Sea Women</u> by Lisa See. The Waterford Library has 5 copies available to check out, including a large print edition and 2 audio books on cd. Please call the Waterford Library 860-444-5805 for more information. Additionally, Amazon sells <u>The Island of Sea Women</u> in paperback for \$9.45 + shipping. The link for this virtual event will be sent out the week of the meeting.

If you haven't yet heard, we announced our sweet **Kick-off event** on Tuesday night during our virtual Happy Hour & Membership Drive.



On Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, we will enjoy a Bean-to-Bar Chocolate Tasting, led by chocolate sommelier, Estelle Tracy!

Please join us for an evening of chocolate

discovery, history, and deliciousness!

\*To attend, you must RSVP and (if you haven't yet done so) pay annual dues of \$36 by Tuesday, Oct. 6.\*

All participants will receive a package containing chocolate samples in advance of the tasting.

Please RSVP to Merrill Mazzella at <u>mazzellaa@sbcglobal.net</u>.

Last year, Sisterhood helped support Safe Futures with their walk at the Crystal Mall. This year, **Safe Futures is holding a virtual edition – 4K Your Way Oct 1 – 4, 2020.** This coincides with National Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Oct 1. Please ask friends, family, and colleagues to sponsor us. We hope you can join the Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood team and support this worthwhile cause. **Here is the link to the Safe Futures page where you can click to register online or download a registration form.** https://

#### safefuturesct.org/annual-4k-safe-walk/

Take a photo of yourself while walking and we'll share those pictures at our Kickoff event on Oct 28!

I would like to thank Merrill Mazzella for organizing and demonstrating how to bake a beautiful round challah (actually she showed us how to bake 4 different styles!). If you missed it, you can watch it on the TE "YouTube" channel.

As always, we look forward to seeing all of you in person.

For now, we will settle for our Zoom get-togethers!

Take care,

#### **Gail & Merrill**

Gailrw53@gmail.com / mazzellaa@sbcglobal.net

#### Temple Emanu-El Gift Shop

For years I have wanted to make a gift shop website, but never got the chance. The pandemic has forced me to finally create **the brand-new Temple Emanu-El Judaica Shop Website.** Look for the beautifully designed button to link the website. Please check often since merchandise is added almost daily.

I could not create this website alone. Many thanks to Amanda Rowe and Sue Fornara for their artistic talents. Thank you to my husband, Geoff Hausmann. He brainstormed with me about almost every aspect of the website and he had to look at merchandise in nearly every room of the house. The biggest thank you goes to my son, David Hausmann. He created all the technical aspects of the website and it wouldn't exist without him.

This year the Chanukah Fair will be held virtually with



curbside pickup. More details to follow. This year I am going to order a limited amount of gelt. If you need a quantity or specific type of gelt please let me know as soon as possible. Also if there is a certain Chanukah item you are looking for, please let me know in the month of Oc-

tober if possible.

I hope everyone enjoys browsing the website. You can always reach me at <a href="Judaicashop@tewaterford.org">Judaicashop@tewaterford.org</a>.

Thanks a lot,

Sue Hausmann

# We are eternally thankful for the support of those below...

#### **Bill Bentley Memorial Fund**

Michael and Marcia Reinhard

- ---mazal tov to Barbara and Scott Wolfe on the marriage of their son Spencer Bentley to Elian Silverman
- ---mazal tov to Ellanora Lerner on receiving the Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Award
- ---mazal tov to Jared Linder on receiving the Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Award
- ---mazal tov to Trevor Fornara on receiving the Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Award
- ---in honor of the Yachad BBYO teens leading services on August 21, 2020

#### Cantor's Fund

Barbara and Peter Kallan and the whole Kallan Family
---in honor of Sherry's big birthday

Richard and Myra Gipstein

---in honor of Sherry Barnes' special birthday

#### **Craig Blumsack Fund**

Ed and Mimi Perl

---in loving memory of Ethel Perl

#### **Essential Services Fund**

Abraham and Sandra Fisher

---with heartfelt sympathy to the Rosenberg family on the passing of Rabbi Aaron's mother, Libby Isaac

Caren and Bob Linden & family

- ---in loving memory of Isidor Meckler on his yahrzeit Judy and Stephen Mann
- ---mazel to Barry and Cecile Feldman on the birth of their grandson Leo Moses Feldman
- ---in honor of the marriage of Zack Goldsmith to Elena Stojanva

Karen Dinsfriend

- ---in loving memory of Joel Dinsfriend on his yahrzeit Kenn and Kim Fischburg
- ---in loving memory of Jack Fischburg on his yahrzeit Lynn and Jean Brown
- ---in loving memory of Irvin Christenson on his yahrzeit Michael and Marcia Reinhard
- ---in memory of Ruth K. Alpert
- ---in memory of Alicia Bauer
- ---mazal tov to Hali and Gerry Keeler on the birth of their grandchild Razi David
- ---in memory of Alicia Bauer
- ---in memory of Betsy Ryan on her yahrzeit
- ---mazal tov to Lois and Stephen Panikoff on the birth of their granddaughter, Maya Sadie Panikoff
- ---in appreciation of all the mask makers!
- ---in loving memory of Janice Reisner, mother of Roberta Reisner-Winograd
- ---in memory of Alicia Bauer

Nathan and Shelley Weiss

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

#### Goldsmith - Kallan Fund

Barbara and Peter Kallan and the whole Kallan Family

- --- in honor of the marriage of Zach and Elena Goldsmith Donald and Lois Steinman
- --- mazel tov to Marc Goldsmith on the marriage of his son Zack Goldsmith to Elena Stojanva

#### Isaaca Siegel Landscaping Fund

Golda Dovle

- --- in memory of Libby Isaac
- --- in loving memory of Evelyn Graber on her yahrzeit

#### Kitchen Fund

Stanley and Karen Bloustine

--- in appreciation of the wonderful Rosh Hashanah Baking Class by Merrill Mazzella

#### Mitzvah Fund

Ethel Chatkin

- --- in memory of Libby Isaac, mother of Rabbi Rosenberg Lillian Yormark
- --- in loving memory of Yetta Diamond on her yahrzeit Scott Leader
- --- in loving memory of Roz Leader on her yahrzeit

#### Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund

Armi and Jonathan Rowe & family

- --- in memory of Libby Isaac
- --- in memory of Enid Lesser

Barbara and Peter Kallan and the whole Kallan Family

--- In memory of Libby Isaac

Cecile and Barry Feldman

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

Donald and Lois Steinman

--- in memory of Libby Isaac, mother of Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg

Earl and Lisa Kideckel

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

Gail and Steve Weber

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

Henry and Jane Weinberg

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

Irma Flitt

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

Jane and Marvin Schnur

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

Jared, Hannah, Sam and Deborah Linder

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

Judi Glickstein

--- in memory of Libby Isaac

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8** 

# We are eternally thankful for the support of those below... Continued from page 7

Karen Dinsfriend

---in memory of Libby Isaac, mother of Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg

Leslie and Harvey Orenstein & families

---with warm thoughts to you and your family on the death of your mother, grandmother, great grandmother, Libby Isaac

Lois and Stephen Panikoff

- ---in memory of Libby Isaac
- ---thank you to Merrill Mazzella and Gail Weber for all their effort on behalf of Sisterhood

Michael and Flossi Betten

---in memory of Libby Isaac, our condolences to the Rosenberg family

Richard and Myra Gipstein

---in memory of Libby Isaac

Stuart and Marilyn Fishbone

- --- in memory of Libby Isaac
- --- thanks to Trevor Fornara

#### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Barry and Stephanie Thorp

- --- in loving memory of William Thorp on his yahrzeit Edward Perry
- --- in loving memory of Frances Perry on her yahrzeit Ethel Chatkin
- --- in loving memory of my father, Sol Gordon on his yahrzeit

Gabriella Schlesinger

--- in memory of Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg's mother, Libby Isaac

Irma Flitt

- --- happy New Year and thank you to Rabbi Marc Ekstrand
- --- in loving memory of David Flitt on his yahrzeit

# Service Schedule

Oct. 1-4 Thur Sun.		Safe Futures is holding a virtual edition – 4K Your Way		
•		El Sisterhood in supporting this event (see Sisterhoo	•	
Oct. 2	Fri.	Sukkot Family Activity led by Religious School	6:00 P.M.	
Oct. 2		Sukkot Service/Celebration for everyone	7:00 P.M.	
Oct. 3	Sat.	Sukkot Morning Service	10:00 A.M.	
		Share your Sukkot creations with TE and PJ Libra	ry 5:00 P.M.	
		See flyers		
Oct. 5	Mon.	High Holiday Machzorim (Prayer book) drop off:	D M	
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Or 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.				
Oct. 9	Fri.	Community Simchat Torah Service and Cabaret	7:00 P.M.	
Oct. 10 Sat.		<b>Community Simchat Torah Service including Yizkor</b> Kabbalah in Times of Change 10:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.		
Oct. 13 Tues.		<u> </u>	12:00 P.M.	
Oct. 16 Fri.		mily Social led by Religious School	6:00 P.M.	
Oct. 16	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 P.M. Mussar Class with Rabbi Marc 12:00 P.M.			
Oct. 19 Mon.		12:00 P.M.		
Oct. 20 Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change 12:00 P.M.			
Oct. 21 Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class with Sherry Barnes 11:00 A.M.			
Oct. 21 Wed.	Medita	12:00 P.M.		
Oct. 21 Wed.	Sisterh	7:00 P.M.		
Oct. 23 Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 P.M.			
Oct. 26 Mon.	Mussar Class with Rabbi Marc 12:00 P.M.			
Oct. 27 Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change 12:00 P.M.			
Oct. 28 Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class with Sherry Barnes 11:00 A.M.			
Oct. 28 Wed.	Meditation with April D'Amato 12:00 P.M.			
Oct. 28 Wed.	Sisterhood Kickoff Event 7:00		7:00 P.M.	
Oct. 30 Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 P.M.			
Nov. 2	Mon.	Mussar Class with Rabbi Marc	12:00 P.M.	
Nov. 3	Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change	12:00 P.M.	
Nov. 4	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class with Sherry Barne	s 11:00 A.M.	
Nov. 4	Wed.	Meditation with April D'Amato	12:00 P.M.	
Nov. 5	Thur.	Adult Beginning Hebrew Class with Sherry Barnes	12:00 P.M.	
Nov. 6	Fri.	First Friday Tot Shabbat & Tefillah Time with		
		Rabbi Marc and Hazzan Sherry	6:45 P.M.	
		Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.	
		Kaddalat Snaddat Service	7:30 P.M.	

# In the Beit Midrash (House of Study) - 5781

**Rabbi's Coffee House:** Tuesdays at 8:30AM – 9:30AM Each week beginning October 13. Stop into Rabbi Marc's virtual coffee house and talk about whatever is on your mind. You'll have to make your own coffee.

# Kabbalah in Times of Change: G(r)o(w)ing with the flow – with Rabbi Or Zohar

Tuesdays at 12PM – 1:15PM – Begins October 13. Meditation, reading and discussion of the Book of Zohar. This class will be 12 sessions. Rabbi Or presents Kabbalah in an engaging for both beginning and more advanced students. There is semester fee of \$216. To register contact Rabbi Or at rabbiorzohar@gmail.com.

#### Mussar: Mondays, 12PM to 1PM

Each week beginning October 19, 2020 through the 2nd week in June. This discussion session will be based upon The Mussar Torah Commentary edited by Rabbi Barry Block and selections form the classic Mussar text Messilat Yesharim. Study and conversation led by Rabbi Marc.

#### **Adult Hebrew Translation Class with Sherry Barnes**

Wednesdays at 11AM beginning October 21 This class has been meeting for a while and is up to chapter 12 in their book, Prayer Book Hebrew The Easy Way by EKS Publishing. Our goal is to be able to translate prayers and maybe even some Torah.

#### Meditation with April D'Amato

Wednesdays at 12PM to 12:30PM – beginning October 21. Meditation feeds the soul by aligning mind, body, and soul. Meditation leads the individual to a higher state of awareness, deeper sense of well-being and peacefulness. This class will incorporate several techniques including sound, breath work, energy balancing and guided imagery. Join with April as she guides and teaches meditation for beginners and the experienced.



#### **Adult Beginning Hebrew Class with Sherry Barnes**

Thursdays 12:00PM to 1:00PM beginning November 5
This class is open to anyone wanting to learn how to read
Hebrew. We will start with the Hebrew Aleph-Bet and vowels. Our goal is to be able to read prayers in our siddur, prayer book. If you already know Hebrew, but are a bit rusty, you
are also welcomed to join the class. Bring your lunch and
come learn Hebrew!

#### Meditation, Prayer and Bible Study:

Saturday Mornings at 10AM on the 2nd Saturday, November thru June

A 15 to 20-minute prayer and meditation session based upon liturgy and verse followed by a 40 to 45 minute conversation based upon the Torah and Haftarah reading of the week. When a bar or bat mitzvah coincides with the 2nd Saturday, expect a traditional Reform liturgy open to the entire Emanu-El community. Meditation and study co-led by Rabbi Marc and Sherry Barnes.

#### **Rabbi's Appointments**

Something on your mind that you need help thinking through or just need to talk about? Concerned about something going on at the Temple or in the community? Or you'd just like to get to know one another. Rabbi Marc is available nearly every day, except Wednesdays for one-on-one, couples, or family meetings. Contact Rabbi Marc directly or schedule an appointment through Roberta in the Temple office.

Questions can be directed to Rabbi Marc at marcekstrand@gmail.com or Sherry Barnes at shirie3860@aol.com.

Zoom links will be posted on our Temple Emanu-El calendar which you can find on our website www.tewaterford.org.



# **October Birthdays**

Miles Appleby Marla Renee Barnett Jacob Bendick Marcia Brensilver Jean Brown Allyson Carlow Norman Cooper **Bruce Darling** Karen Dinsfriend Ann Doyle Adam Engelman Andrew Feldman Jo-el Fernandez Kenneth Fischburg Kimberly Fischburg Stuart Fishbone

Chris Fornara Arthur Fox Aleah Fox-Caulin Samuel Gipstein Paul Goldstein Monica Goldstein Aaron Green Seymour Hendel Morgan Hicks Jennifer Kaplan David Raymond Kaplan Rachel Kayla Kaplan Rick Kaye Mitchell Krasney **Gregory Kronisch** 

Barbara Luftglass-Morea Steve Mann Jo Michaelson Caryn Novick Michael O'Brien Rachel O'Brien Mike Reinhard Roberta Reisner-Winograd Katherine Rosen Moira Ross Evan Seeman Sara Seeman Anna Seidner Sophia Selke

Adam Sheriff Danny Sitko **Thomas Smith** Martin Trehub Laurie Wickson Scott Wolfe



# October **Anniversaries**



Susan and Chris Fornara Richard King and Lisa Gilbert Lawrence and Susan Goldman

Mike and Rebecca Haynes Clayton and Elyse Hicks Louis and Anne Kronisch Amy and Dan Orce Carl and Susan Rosen **Bradley and Rachel Sherman** Robin Margolis Silsby and John Silsby

Andrew and Samantha Venooker

Adam Kaufman and Rebecca Woodward



#### October 2

Simone Lerner

Irvin Christenson Wolf Davidson Norman Hirsch Donald Martin Kelmar Bill Kosseff Miriam Emily Lamchick Jack Millstein Frances Perry Carl Ruck Barbara Segal Dr. Leonard Silverman

October 9 **Betty Bendick** David Bialer Eleanor Comforti William Dibner Joel Dinsfriend David Edgar Jeffrey Gleit Stanley Gordon Esther Green Rochelle Gurwitz Sarah Belva Lewis Phillip McCaffrey Luke Moreo Adele Panikoff Matthew Perry Sarah Resnick Michael Ronay

## October Yahrzeits

**Barbara Senges** 

Samuel Sher

Alexander Rosen Sarah Ann Salowitz **Russell Smith** Laurene Stewart **Eleanor Torrest** Margaret Yeomens Warren Miles Weinberg Samuel Werner

#### October 16 Anna Beck

Jason Becker Maurice Blinderman Eugene Frank Arveh Friedman Sarah Friedman Julia Geidenson Morris Irwin Kate Liebling Harry Linden Louis Ratner Joel Sandy Shapiro Dina Sharack

#### October 23

**Paul Cantor** Evan Scott Goldman Samuel Goodman Shirley Gordon Elizabeth Greenhalgh Gussie Kaufman

Betty Jean Linden Rosella Rappoport Ludwig Rubinsky Jon Scheiber Klare Selo Peter Simpson Francis W. Wiesniewski Max Yavener

#### October 30

Coleman Andelman Dr. John P. Ekstrand Ann Goldblatt Krysta Meyer Goodman Hilbert Hendel Judy Lupkay Sylvia Moynihan Yale Orenstein J. Julius Schnable Max Seeman Hinda Freeman Zisholtz



# Temple Emanu-El Religious School Offers a Modern Approach to Religious School with ShalomLearning

This fall, Temple Emanu-El Religious School will proudly offer the ShalomLearning program for Kitah Gan through Kitah Zayin.





# Values Curriculum

The ShalomLearning's values-based curriculum explores seven Jewish values and their relevance in our everyday lives. Students will learn to use Jewish sources to make responsible decisions and build positive relationships.

#### Hebrew Curriculum

Using the ShalomLearning Hebrew program, we will teach your children to read Hebrew, chant prayers, and understand their meaning. At home, your child can log into the ShalomLearning portal to practice.

#### Virtual Classroom

Learning together in a virtual classroom, students will interact with each other in a real-time, teacher-led class. By being able to log in from home (or anywhere), students understand that learning and Judaism happen everywhere, not just in the Religious School.



#### CONTACT

Co-Directors
Armi Rowe (860) 460-3047
Jennifer Zettler (860) 287-5832
religiousschool@tewaterford.org

www.shalomlearning.org



# 4K Your Way!

Safe Futures Annual 4K Safe Walk 2020 October 1-4, 2020

Virtual Edition!

(Multiple day event)

You can walk, run, bike, skip, hop, walk your dog (or cat), horse cartwheel, and even dance your way to 4K!

We are going to need you more than ever to lace up those sneaks, put on those dancing shoes or get the leash out as you gather a team, rally supporters, and join us to kick off

In case you are curious: 4K = 2.49 miles / 4K = 5,249 steps / 4K = 157,480.315 inches

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Your support helps victims and survivors!

Register Here: https://secure.frontstream.com/safe-futures-annual-4k-safe-walk-2020-virtual



# Sukkot

On Sukkot Jewish families build a temporary hut (sukkah) with an open roof made of branches to let in moonlight and an open side to welcome guests.

#### BUILD YOUR OWN SUKKAH!

HTTPS://PJLIBRARY.ORG/SUKKOT

#### MAKE YOUR OWN LULAV AND ETROG

HTTPS://TEWATERFORD.ORG/MAKE YOUR-OWN-LULAV-ETROG/

## Join us to Share your Sukkot Creations Saturday, October 3rd @ 5:00 pm

Zoom Link Meeting ID: 828 7257 2062 Passcode: shalom



For further information contact Barbara Wolfe: pjlibrary@jfec.com









# What is a Lulav and Etrog?

On Sukkot we build a "Sukkah" and eat our meals there with our invited guests (or maybe just our imaginary guests). Another very important celebration ritual for this Harvest Festival is the blessing and the waving of the Lulav and Etrog.

The Lulav is a combination of date palm, willow and myrtle branches held together by a woven palm branch. The Etrog (or citron) is a lemon-like fruit with a wonderful citrus smell. Click PJ Library Sukkot, to find instructions on how to put together a Lulav as well as how to shake it and say the blessings.

#### Why make your own?

In Connecticut, where we live, it is certainly not easy to find an Etrog (which can also be quite expensive) or to find palm, willow and myrtle branches for the Lulav.

For those of us who live outside of Israel, a new custom is growing among Jews in the US – To make your own Lulav and Etrog by using species available in your own back yard. After all, we are celebrating the local Fall Harvest!!!!!

# Use your imagination:

For the Etrog use a lemon, apple, small pumpkin, zucchini, pinecones...

For the Lulav use branches from CT trees like maple, oak, elm, ash, birch, black cherry or even a corn stalk...

Finally, if you really want to be creative and thoughtful in your choices remember that

The palm branch - the spine The myrtle - the eyes The willow - the lips The etrog - the heart









# TEMPLE EMANU-EL RAFFLE

December 13, 2020 6:00 pm

# WHERE Temple Emanu-El Via Zoom Link

**Announcements will provide Drawing Event Zoom link later** 

\$25.00 EACH RAFFLE TICKET Only 720 Tickets Available

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Five \$500 VISA
Gift Cards
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Kim & Kenn Fischburg

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> PRIZE

Apple iPad Pro Sponsored by: Savet & Seder

#### 3rd PRIZE

\$500 VISA Gift Card Sponsored by: Creative Office Interiors

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Three \$100 Walmart Gift Cards Sponsored by: Bill & Ellen Seeman

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\$200 Target Gift Card Sponsored by: Adam Kaufman & Rebecca Woodward

#### 6th PRIZE

\$150 Best Buy Gift Card Sponsored by: John Murphy & Barbara Senges

#### 7th PRIZE

\$100 Amazon Gift Card Sponsored by: Jonathan & Armi Row

You can buy tickets from the Temple Office office@tewaterford.org or 860-443-3005,
Barry Feldman, Scott Wolfe, Marcia Reinhard, Merrill Mazzella, Armi Rowe or
John Murphy (jem1219@atlanticbb.net or 860-608-0774)

#### Yachad BBYO



#### Covid-19 Won't Stop Us!

By Jack Haynes

Our JFEC sponsored Yachad BBYO chapter board has been very busy over the course of the last couple of weeks. Not long after the new board was elected, we got right down to business. On Friday, August 21, Yachad BBYO joined together with Rabbi Marc, Sherry Barnes and Temple Emanu-El to have a virtual service. Members of Yachad and members of the temple were encouraged to tune in. Several teens read Hebrew and English parts throughout the service. It was a great way to be reminded of the amazing community we have all around us. Although social distancing is temporary, family is forever.

In addition to planning and leading the joint service, Yachad's board participated in a virtual convention called, "B'Yachad" (not to be confused with our chapter name – just a coincidence.) B'Yachad is usually a weekend long convention that takes place in a hotel in Danbury or Hartford where the board members of the region's chapters gather together to prepare for the upcoming year, and reconnect with friends from the past year and make new ones.

This year, B'Yachad went virtual to maintain social distancing protocols. Three pairs of board members attended a zoom call over the course of three days. We learned all about new safety procedures, how to effectively be a board member, and, just like at the hotel conventions, we met new people and reconnected with those we knew!

To finish off the B'Yachad virtual convention, the board met in person at Hannah Linder's house, the home of her grandmother Rena Linder. Hannah, Yachad's N'siah (President), and her grandmother provided their backyard to make it possible for the board to safely meet and talk about the upcoming programs throughout the year. At this meeting, we tuned into Zoom again to meet with the whole region led by our Regional Directors, to discuss programming ideas and schedules in the coming months. Unlike other years, there are tons of new safety protocols which will help us to have

fun and engaging in-person programs while staying safe. BBYO is very serious about COVID-19 and wants to make sure everyone involved can have a great time while being smart and staying safe.

Board members, Jack Haynes, Simone Lerner, Ethan Novick, Bayla McCaffrey, Hannah Linder and our Advisor Marcia Reinhard sat in lawn chairs placed 6 feet apart and sported the new BBYO face masks. For three hours, we looked through our calendars and carefully and thoughtfully chose dates for events, fundraisers, and meetings. By the end, we were pleased with what we scheduled over the next four



months and how we will engage the teens in our community. It took some thought and creativity, but with a combination of in-person and virtual events, it is shaping up to be a good start to the 2020-21 season. Although COVID-19 is restricting us in certain ways, Yachad BBYO will continue to have an exciting, fun, and most importantly, safe programming year!

The Yachad BBYO board wishes to thank Mrs. Rena Linder for allowing us the use of her backyard which made our inperson meeting possible.

For information on how to become involved in our Yachad BBYO chapter, please email Regan Kaye, Membership Chair, at kayer@region18.org or our Advisor Marcia Reinhard at mreinhard@jfec.com.

#### **Busy Bees: Yachad BBYO**

By Jack Haynes

Yachad has been very busy over the last month, planning events, and adapting to new COVID-19 regulations. As of September 13th, all Connecticut Valley Region chapters are moving into Phase 2 of programming! This is great news for our chapter. Phase 2 allows us to hold in-person events with a maximum of 50 people, which is a big improvement from the original 10 people mandate. (We usually do not get more than 20-25 people at our events.) Temperatures will

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 15** 

## Yachad BBYO -- continued from page 14

be taken of everyone attending events upon their arrival and mask-wearing is also required at every event. Of course, social distancing will still be necessary and adhered to. Although we are not allowed to provide any materials or food at events, teens are encouraged to bring their own supplies and snacks, unless told otherwise.

At the time of this writing, Yachad is approaching their awesome September event which you will hear all about in our next bulletin article. However, coming up on October 17th will be our "DIY Drive-In"! This drive-in event will include a backyard showing of "Paul Blart: Mall Cop" starring Kevin James. A projector and screen is being generously provided to us by our Regional Directors. This event will also follow all of Phase 2 guidelines and will be a lot of fun. Teens can and should bring their own popcorn or other snack of choice to this event as well as their own drink.

Not only will this event be a terrific time for everyone, but it will also give us the opportunity to do something for the community. At the October 17th event, Yachad will host a "Non-Perishable Food Drive Competition". Teens attending the event will be encouraged to bring as many non-perishable food items as possible to donate to the Jewish Federation's food bank. During this pandemic, the Jewish Federation has been providing food for five times the number of people they provided for, pre-COVID. Once the event begins, the teens will be split up into two teams. Whichever team brings the most non-perishables will win an awesome

prize! And truly, everyone will be winners! We all win when we give to those in need and do acts of Tzedakah. We are all very excited for and looking forward to an enjoyable fall season!

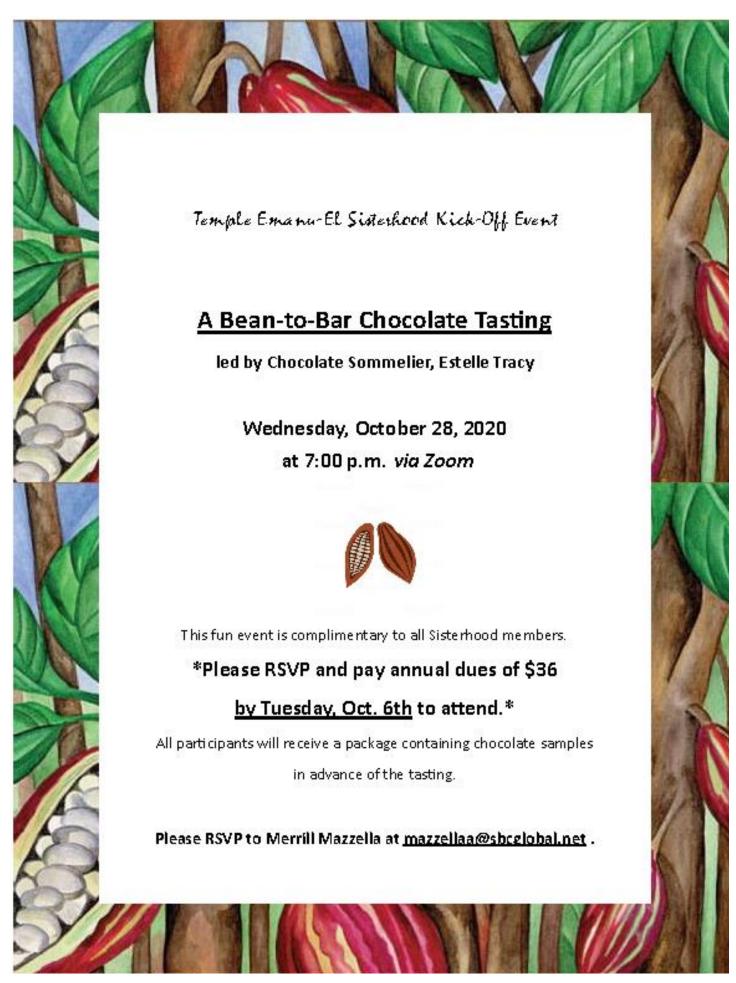
Looking even further into the future, Yachad members and all teens, BBYO members or not, have an incredible opportunity to receive a \$3,000 "RootOne Voucher" towards a trip to Israel for summer 2021! (Crazy, right?!) Led by the Jewish Education Project, "RootOne" aims to increase teens traveling to Israel by nearly 40% every year. This is being offered to teens on trips through BBYO and other teen organizations. Anyone interested is highly encouraged to register. The vouchers will be given out on a first-come, firstserve basis. To secure your place, a \$250 down payment is required which will be fully refundable until March 2, 2021. Visit bbyopassport.org for more information about this amazing opportunity. This is open to all teens, BBYO membership not required and not based on need. If you are not sure by March 2 that it will be safe to travel to Israel and you don't want to gamble, you can cancel and receive your deposit back in full. March 2 is the final date for full refund, if cancelling.

For information on how to become involved in our Yachad BBYO chapter and join us on Oct. 17, please email Regan Kaye, Membership Chair, at kayer@region18.org or our Advisor, Marcia Reinhard, at mreinhard@jfec.com.

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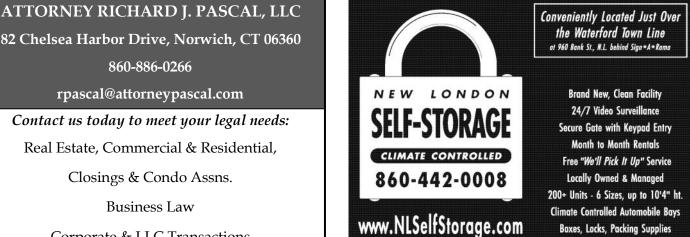




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# **Gift Cards**

The need to help those in crisis due to unexpected emergencies knows no season. Please consider donating Stop and Shop, Shop Rite, Big Y, Walmart or other

gift cards for people in need. The Temple office receives calls for help purchasing food and other basic necessities throughout the year.









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Deadline for October 2020 Bulletin is Friday, Oct. 16

Email your articles to Roberta at office@tewaterford.org

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED** 

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