



CHAI-LITES

News and Notes from Congregation Jewish Community North

Join us for Shabbat:

We celebrate most weeks with services in the Kant Family Sanctuary at 7:15 p.m. A fellowship hour "Oneg" follows in our beautiful foyer.

Contact Us:

5400 Fellowship Lane
 Spring, TX 77379
 (281) 376-0016 (tel & fax)
office@cjcn.org
www.cjcn.org
 OFFICE HOURS:
 Wed-Fri 10:30-2:30

Did You Know?

Hospitals no longer inform the temple office when a patient is admitted. If either you or a member of your family is hospitalized, please let us know. If you, or someone you know is in need, we'd like to help. If you don't tell us, we can't help. Please contact us!

rabbi@cjcn.org
 832-387-4437
office@cjcn.org

FROM OUR RABBI



Shalom, everyone!

When I was a boy, I used to love the Temple newsletter. It was printed on goldenrod-colored paper and it was set in an elegant, evocative, and vaguely exotic typeface. It was the first place I was ever published; a poem honoring Golda Meir I had written was selected for inclusion. It smelled like old-fashioned newspapers.

That newsletter reminded me of a place where I felt at home — where I was not the only Jewish kid in the building. Where my curiosity, my engagements with teachers, and my desire to learn were celebrated, and where I was not bullied. A place where I was safe.

In an age long before the internet, where social media would be unimaginable, the newsletter was the primary point of contact we had with our congregation when we were not physically at the congregation. It was a critical, if not central expression of a community.

Times have changed, and today a newsletter is a nice supplement, but it does not come close to the power or immediacy of e-mail, texts, Facebook posts, websites, and related forms of contact. As much as I rely on contemporary technology, a large part of me longs for that simpler, slower time.

All our lives have drastically changed with the emergence of this pandemic and at least for now, there is greater need to connect people to community when they are not physically able to be in the building. Telecommunication is literally the only way we have to gather together right now. Never more than now do I appreciate the physical experience of holding a newsletter, rather than swiping through virtual pages on a screen. To have physical contact with part of my congregation. I know I'm not alone in that sentiment, and it's important to me that you know that you are not alone either.

OUR LEADERSHIP

Rabbi

Jonathan S. Siger

Religious School Director

Kylie Danielson

Rabbi Emeritus

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Toby Greenberg

Men's Club President

Dan Checkman

Immediate Past President

Jason Kirbie

We find ourselves separated for the good of our own health and that of our fellow citizens and in an hour when our nation is called upon to adapt to a threat unprecedented in our lifetimes and in that of many of our parents. We have the good fortune of having access to technology that will allow us to connect, to gather together, to learn and to celebrate together in ways that were science-fiction fantasies when I was a boy.

Please remember to drink enough water, to stretch every day, to cry if you need to. These are very stressful times and water, physical exercise and crying are good stress relievers. So, by the way, is laughter. Try to exercise your sense of humor as well.

I have a word of Torah for you. It is the word of God, delivered by Moses, given to Joshua, in an hour of uncertainty and anxiety. Recall them now and live by their promise.

חֲזַק וְאַמֵץ ... וְאֵנֹכִי אֶהְיֶה עִמָּךְ

“Be strong and courageous...for I shall be with you” (Deut. 31:23)

Be strong, be courageous, and with the help of God, I too, shall be here for you.

Rabbi Jonathan Siger

Thank You!

**Honorable
Menschens**

CJCN has a tradition of recognizing our outstanding volunteers, members whose dedication and effort makes our committees and events successful.

Without your effort the programs that our congregation enjoys would not be possible.

NOVEMBER

Leigh & Dan Checkman



SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

From Our President Rick Preble

Happy New Year—may it be a year of good health and prosperity for you and yours.

While the temperature is cool, the activity level here at the temple has warmed up a great deal this season. The annual gift wrap turned out to be a pretty good year even with so many people purchasing online. Thank you to all who participated in making this annual fundraiser a good one.

The nominating committee is well underway developing the slate of your leaders for next year and the year after. Please reach out to any current officer or nominating committee member if you are interested in being one of those leaders.

Please read the email messages sent weekly to inform you of what's going on.

This year, the Purim carnival will be expanded to include kids of all ages. The Saturday night prior to the Purim carnival will be a very special event to invite all former students of our religious school to attend the first reunion. If you have children, or maybe grandchildren, that were students in our religious school, they are welcome to attend. If you know of former students that might be interested, please contact them so that they have the opportunity to celebrate this unique experience.

As always, any questions, concerns, or input that you would like to give, feel free to contact me at anytime.

Rick Preble
President



Religious School Reunion!

The Jacques C. Shure Religious School held its first reunion of former and current students, teachers, and principals. Special honors were presented to Morah Preble and Morah Herman for their continued dedication in teaching our children. It was a great turn out, with five past-principals joining in the evening.

Purim Carnival Fun!

This year’s Purim Carnival was a great success!

In addition to the usual Hamantaschen and bagel dogs, attendees were entertained with a bounce house, a STEM Mak R Bus, an awesome magician, and new and improved carnival games, provided by Keith McPherson and Boy Scout Troop I659 for his Eagle Project.

WE WANT TO HELP

From our By Laws:
“No individual shall be denied membership in the Congregation solely for reasons of financial inability”

Please contact our Finance Committee at Finance@CJCN.org if you are facing financial challenges and need to adjust your commitment. We value and protect everyone’s confidentiality.



FYI

If you would like to place someone on the Mi Sheberach list, please contact the office at office@cjcj.org. Please also let us know if you would like to be removed from the list

CONTACTS

- Rabbi Jonathan Siger
Rabbi@cjcj.org
- Rick Preble, President
President@cjcj.org
- Kylie Danielson
Principal@cjcj.org
- Jocelyn Nelson, Treasurer
Treasurer@cjcj.org
- Tally Breitstein, Security
Security@cjcj.org
- Calendar committee
Calendar@cjcj.org
- Newsletter, Website,
Announcement submissions
Publicity, internal & external
Communications@cjcj.org
- Email changes
Office@cjcj.org
- Sisterhood President
sisterhoodpres@cjcj.org
- Men's Club President
mensclubpres@cjcj.org
- SPRIFTY
SPRIFTY@cjcj.org
- OFFICE
Office Administrator
281-376-0016
office@cjcj.org

WAYS TO HONOR FRIENDS & FAMILY AND BENEFIT CJCJ

Just a reminder that there are many ways to benefit our temple. To recognize a happy occasion (anniversaries, birthdays, accomplishments), you can engrave a leaf on our Tree of Life in the foyer. You can also dedicate a Shabbat or High Holy Days prayer book with a name plate to honor an accomplishment or celebration, or in memory of a loved one. You can also honor the memory of a loved one by engraving a yahrzeit plaque that is displayed in the back of the sanctuary.

Contact Sharon Natenberg with any questions.

<u>Honor</u>	<u>Minimum Donation</u>
Memorial Plaque	\$360
Leaf on the Tree of Life	\$270
Prayer book dedication	\$36
Library book donation	\$18



HELP NEEDED

CJCJ is looking for volunteers. Do you have a few spare hours a month, and an interest in:

- Social media
- Fundraising/Programming ideas
- Camp-style activities for students
- Building renovations
- Or ANYTHING else?

Please let us know if you can help!

If you're not sure who to contact, please email Susan Shaffer at preselect@cjcj.org

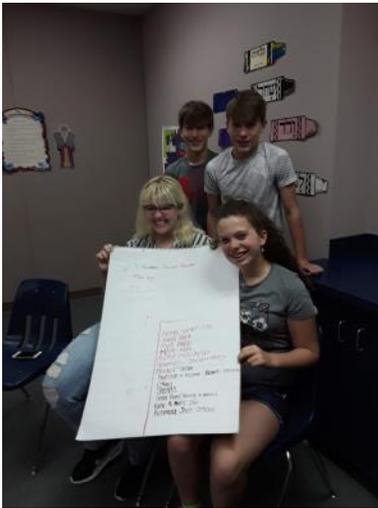
Religious School Updates from Kylie Danielson, Director

Happy new year from Camp Aviv!

We ended 2019 with several celebrations. We had our annual ice cream social in the sukkah, and welcomed Sally Friedman and Zachary Zeller to the bimah to be consecrated to the study of Torah.

Our campers continued their study of "Echad Mi Yodea" by learning about the *avot* and *imahot* and making biblically inspired dishes in the kitchen. The rabbi taught lessons about the five books of Torah and our students made their own books to illustrate the six orders of the mishnah. Our older students planned a wonderful Chanukah party and built a life-size menorah for a ring-toss game.

We're looking forward to a great 2020 filled with lots more fun and meaningful programming.



SPRIFTY

Sprifty has had a couple of really fun activities in the past few months. We've had several teens go to NFTY events, and we held our Chanukah White Elephant Gift party. We have had a couple of meetings, and the leadership board are meeting soon to plan a few things for the spring. Stay tuned for more details!

Joanna Schess and David Pfeffer—Co-Chairs



Programming & Fundraising Updates

Exciting FUNdraising Plans!

You all should have received a mailing announcing the CJCJN Fundraising Committee's plan. A hearty thank you goes to those of you who agreed to help our efforts for donating money to be sponsors. You could be a sponsor too! Just contact Sharon Natenberg or Kathleen Blumenthal.

PURIM CARNIVAL

We are expanding the **Purim Carnival** to appeal to everyone! This year, we are adding a MaK R (STEM activities) bus, door prizes, a slight of hand magician, fabulous face painting, 50/50 split money pot, and Wii Dancing. Of course there will be hamantaschen with dough made by Barry Katz, bagel dogs, hot dogs, pizza, pickles, chips, and drinks.

Tickets will be 50 cents. Different numbers of tickets will be needed to participate in different events.

Please join us on Sunday, March 8, from 9:30am-1:30pm for a fun morning with our whole CJCJN family—and wear your best costumes!!

B-I-N-G-O!

Plus, we are planning a **BINGO** event on Saturday, March 21, 6:30-9pm. \$20 per person in advance, \$25 at the door. Ages 13 and up can play. There will be cash prizes, snacks, and lots of fun. Again, please come to support CJCJN.

Men's Club

The Men's Club just successfully completed our first joint event in several years with the CJCJN Sisterhood in presenting the Tu B'Shevat Seder. In case I missed anyone at the event, I want to thank the following people for their contributions and assistance with the event (which WILL be repeated next year!): Tally Breitstein, Leigh Checkman, Noah Checkman, Kylie Danielson, Donna Gibbon, Toby Greenberg, Craig Klein, Leslie Marks, Nia Mire, Sharon Natenberg, Aaron Nelson, Evan Pfeffer, Rabbi Siger, and Lisa Steck. I'm probably still missing someone, so thank you all!

But wait—there's more! You may have seen a reference to a Latke Cook-Off in the directory that was scheduled for December 25, 2019—that didn't happen, and maybe you were a little sad. Well, be sad no more! It was decided at our December Men's Club meeting that we'd follow the Christian example of "Christmas in July" and hold a "Hanukkah in July" celebration. So be on the lookout for a dreidel tournament, and dust off your favorite latke recipe for that cook-off in late July!

Sisterhood

Sisterhood members continue their labor of love for CJC/N! In December, with the help of many volunteers, thousands of packages were wrapped at the annual Gift Wrap fundraiser. No sooner had the last gift been wrapped then we moved on to kitchen duty. We fried hundreds of potato latkes and coordinated the temple Chanukah dinner.

Winter brings many celebrations. We shared an enjoyable Ladies' Night Out in January, and thanked and recognized all of our amazing volunteers during our Gift Wrap Appreciation Shabbat service. February brought something new—many members of the CJC/N family joined Sisterhood and the Men's Club for a very special Tu B'Shevat Seder.

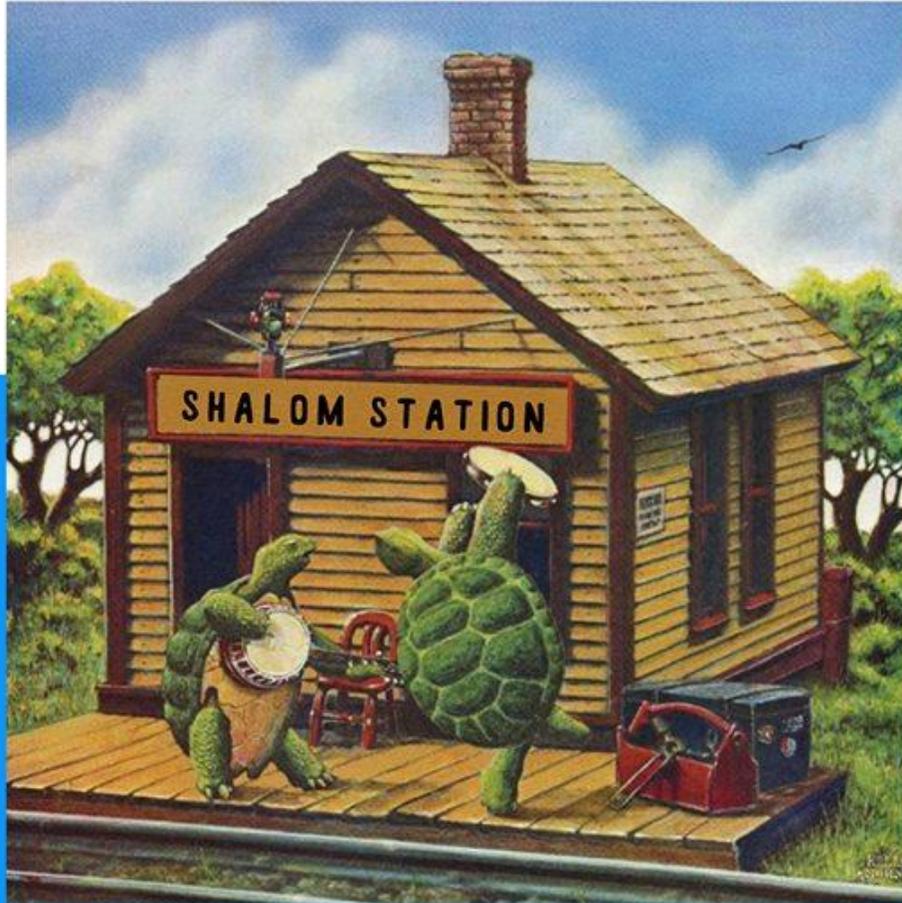
Stay tuned for more fun Sisterhood events to come!

Toby Greenberg—Sisterhood President



Shabbat & Co.

Rabbi Jonathan Siger & The Bayit Band



September 20
October 25
November 15

December 20
January 24
February 21

March 13
April 17
May 15

Select Friday Nights at 7:30 p.m.
Congregation Jewish Community North
CJCN.ORG



THE 2019-2020 CJCN FILM SERIES

COMING ATTRACTIONS

- Sunday, September 22 • Drama • "Avalon"
- Sunday, November 10 • Classic • "The Odessa File"
- Sunday, December 8 • Comedy • "The Frisco Kid"
- Sunday, February 23 • Israel • "The Women's Balcony"
- Sunday, April 19 • Documentary • "On The Map"
- Sunday, June 7 • Animated • "Prince of Egypt"

ALL SHOWS 2:00 p.m. at CJCN: 5400 FELLOWSHIP LANE, SPRING, TX 77379

FREE ADMISSION BUT RESERVATION IS REQUIRED

RSVP BY EMAIL: 4REEL@CJCN.ORG • (281) 376-0016



Be Part of the Judaica Gift Shop Team!!

Sisterhood is in need of some help
to cover the Judaica Gift Shop.

All we need are two person teams on Sunday
mornings when religious school is in session or
whenever there is a special CJCN event.

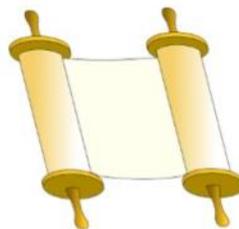
With a big enough sales force, each team may serve
as few as two shifts during the entire school year.

Please submit your name and contact information to
Marlene or Carolyn ASAP.

Training can be provided.

Marlene G.: mgordon1088@att.net 281-414-5038

Carolyn W.: scweiner@att.net 281-315-0155



Thank you to our generous donors!

October Donations

2019/20 Building Fund Donations

On the Yahrzeit of Benjamin Gordon

Ms. Marlene Gordon

On the Yahrzeit of Ilene S. Panzer

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Panzer

On the Yahrzeit of Irvin Sachs

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Sachs

2019/20 Miscellaneous Donations

Miscellaneous Contribution High Holidays

Barbara Miller

With thanks to Cheryl Tompkins

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nelson

With thanks to Donna Gibbon

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nelson

2019/20 Flower Donations

As a program sponsor Flower Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Gamson

2019/20 High Holy Day Appeal

High Holiday Appeal

Mr. & Mrs. Roger Bensman

Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Blumenthal

Ms. Lori Buonanno

Mr. Lawrence Cohen

Ms. Barbara Dorfman

Mr. & Mrs. Rick Dorfman

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Gamson

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Gertson

Ms. Donna Gibbon

Dr. & Mrs. David Gold

Ms. Toby Greenberg

Elena Goldberg and Isaak Gitlin

Daniel Milwit

Tim & Wendy Harris

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Horwitch

Ms. Miriam Karacek

Mrs. Tina Kirbie

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Koblenz

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Landis

Mr. Howard Leff

Mr. & Mrs. David Livney

Mr. Murray Marks

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Natenberg

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nelson

Mr. & Mrs. David Pfeffer

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Protas

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Sachs

Mr. & Mrs. Stan Schoen

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Shuffler

Mitzi Shure & Jerry Wische

Dr. Malcolm Sokol

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Waller

Mrs. Carolyn Weiner

Dr. Stuart Zykorie

High Holiday Appeal

In honor of Rabbi Siger and Kylie Danielson

Mr. Kenneth & Mrs. Esther Friedman

In honor of Grandson Asher Slater

Dr. & Mrs. Neal Bernstein

In honor of Grandson Ethan Slater

Dr. & Mrs. Neal Bernstein

On the Yahrzeit of Harold Saltzman

Mr. Stephen Saltzman

With thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Sid Blumenthal

Rabbi & Mrs. Robert Sharff

With thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Steve Natenberg

Rabbi & Mrs. Robert Sharff

2019/20 Legacy Fund Donation

For Yizkor Book Memorials

Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Holm

On the Yahrzeit of Isaac Gniazdowitz

Mr. & Mrs. Max Delacueva

2019/20 Religious School Fund Donations

On the Yahrzeit of Berl Weksler

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Weksler

On the Yahrzeit of Larry David Kant

Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Kant

On the Yahrzeit of Laura Miller

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kirk

On the Yahrzeit of Thelma Konowitch

Ms. Leslie Marks

2019/20 Yahrzeit Contribution

On the Yahrzeit of Carolyn Arsham
Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon Watsky
On the Yahrzeit of Gladys Kormendy
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Katz
On the Yahrzeit of Harry Kimmel
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kimmel
On the Yahrzeit of Ida Kosloff Rosenberg
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Rosenberg
On the Yahrzeit of Jamie Katz
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Katz
On the Yahrzeit of Leonard Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Deitsch
On the Yahrzeit of Louis Strashnick
Mr. & Mrs. Scott & Sheila Jortner

On the Yahrzeit of Meyer Hamburger
Mr. Howard Leff
On the Yahrzeit of Nathan Diamond
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Weisoly
On the Yahrzeit of Samuel Gottlieb
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Gottlieb
On the Yahrzeit of Samuel Weisman
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Waller
On the Yahrzeit of Sharon Eaton
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Natenberg

2019/20 Yizkor Donations

For Yizkor Book Memorials
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Deitsch
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Gamson

November Donations

2019/20 Building Fund Donations

Allie Babendure
Mr. & Mrs. Barry King
In honor of Lenore Herman Assisting with
Evan's Bar Mitzvah
Mr. & Mrs. David Pfeffer
On the Yahrzeit of Irving Rosen
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Rosen
On the Yahrzeit of Johnnie R. Warren
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Panzer
On the Yahrzeit of Joseph L. Panzer
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Panzer
On the Yahrzeit of Mary Snider
Mrs. Charlene Snider

Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Margolis
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nelson
Dr. Ellen Stack & Mr. Leonard Sobel
Mrs. Lisa Steck
Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon Watsky

2019/20 Religious School Fund Donations

On the Yahrzeit of Judy Fine
Mr. & Mrs. Scott & Sheila Jortner
On the Yahrzeit of Roberta Marks
Ms. Leslie Marks

2019/20 Miscellaneous Donations

Miscellaneous Contribution
Klein Funeral Homes

2019/20 Yahrzeit Contribution

On the Yahrzeit of Abby B. Klibanoff
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Kilbride
On the Yahrzeit of Abraham Greenstein
Ms. Judith Payne
On the Yahrzeit of Benjamin R. Klibanoff
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Kilbride
On the Yahrzeit of Eleanor Kovarik
Mrs. Lisa Steck
On the Yahrzeit of Gertrude Hartman
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Katz
On the Yahrzeit of Lester Weisman
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Waller
On the Yahrzeit of Linda Fox
Mr. Roger Fox
Mrs. & Mr. Susan Shaffer

2019/20 Endowment Fund Donation

On the Yahrzeit of Ralph Blumenthal
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Blumenthal

2019/20 High Holy Day Appeal

High Holiday Appeal
Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Ginsberg
Mr. & Mrs. Boyd Hoyt
Mr. & Mrs. Scott & Sheila Jortner
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Kirbie

On the Yahrzeit of Meyer Hamburger

Mr. Howard Leff

On the Yahrzeit of Roberta Marks

Mr. Murray Marks

On the Yahrzeit of Rose Schoen

Mr. & Mrs. Stan Schoen

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Donation

*In honor of Rabbi Jonathan Siger Officiating
at Evan's Bar Mitzvah*

Mr. & Mrs. David Pfeffer

Miscellaneous Contribution

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Vasquez

Cornerstone Church of N. Houston

On the Yahrzeit of Emil Mendel Zykorie

Dr. Stuart Zykorie

On the Yahrzeit of Lloyd Cooke

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Golden

On the Yahrzeit of Sylvia Braff

Mr. Howard Leff

December Donations

2019/20 Building Fund Donations

Miscellaneous Contribution

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Rubin

On the Yahrzeit of Adolph H. Bieber

Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Ginsberg

On the Yahrzeit of Eric Kant

Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Kant

On the Yahrzeit of Paul Oberlander

Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Falk

2019/20 Miscellaneous Donations

As a program sponsor Purim Carnival

Mrs. Cheryl Tompkins

Miscellaneous Contribution

Mr. Sherman Scott

2019/20 Endowment Fund Donation

On the Yahrzeit of Julia Doddy

Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Blumenthal

On the Yahrzeit of William Knapp

Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Blumenthal

2019/20 High Holy Day Appeal

High Holiday Appeal

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Davis

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Greenberg

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nelson

Freedom Polymers

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Preble

Mr. & Mrs. David Sobin

Mrs. Cheryl Tompkins

Dr. & Mrs. Norman Weiss

2019/20 Religious School Fund Donation

On the Yahrzeit of Barnett Brezner

Mr. & Mrs. Scott & Sheila Jortner

On the Yahrzeit of Melvin Schafer

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Weksler

2019/20 Yahrzeit Contribution

On the Yahrzeit of Adolf Wolf

Mr. & Mrs. Robert .Levine J.D.

On the Yahrzeit of Colleen Alexander

Ms. Miriam Karacek

On the Yahrzeit of Esther Berens

Ms. Judith Payne

On the Yahrzeit of Fredric VanDeGraff

Ms. Sandy VanDeGraff

On the Yahrzeit of Irwin Greenberg

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Greenberg

On the Yahrzeit of Jack Panzer

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Panzer

On the Yahrzeit of Joseph Olszewski

Mr. & Mrs. David Sobin

On the Yahrzeit of Meyer Hamburger

Mr. Howard Leff

On the Yahrzeit of Rose Panzer

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Panzer

On the Yahrzeit of Sallie Namkin

Mr. Howard Namkin

On the Yahrzeit of Sally Steiner

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Shuffler

On the Yahrzeit of Sarah Wolf

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Levine J.D.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Donation

On the Yahrzeit of Bruce Bobys

Mr. Jack Hill

On the Yahrzeit of Charlotte Kimmel

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Kimmel

On the Yahrzeit of Larry Greenberg

Ms. Toby Greenberg

On the Yahrzeit of Martin Kaufman

Barry & Sharon Kaufman

Targeted Donations

As a program sponsor Security Support

Ms. Judith Coleman

Miscellaneous Contribution In Support of Ongoing Programs

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nelson

Scenes from CJCN!



A beautiful table setting from the Tu B'Shevat Seder put on by the Men's Club and Sisterhood (above), and Murray Marks and Cheryl Tompkins (below) put their stylish western wear to good use for the Go Texan Shabbat service!



DID YOU KNOW?

CREDIT CARDS

We accept Credit Cards for dues, donations, and purchases.

All financial information is handled in the strictest of confidence.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board of Trustees meetings are open to the congregation's members

(unless in closed session)

Why not join us and observe the governance of your Temple at work?

CALENDAR

Check the calendar on our website at www.CJCN.org for the most up to date information.