

# CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



April 1-8, 2016 / 22-29 Adar II – 5776

Parshat Shemini / Parah

**Join the Minyan:** We are always looking for additional men to join the daily minyan. Sunday at 8:30 am. Monday and Thursday at 6:30 am. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6:45 am. Come early. Come often. Join the minyan. Come and **Help Make Our Minyan Strong!**

**Shabbat Shiur & Mincha:** Now that we have resumed the normal Shabbat schedule, we invite you to join us for the Rabbi's Shabbat shiur in the late afternoon, followed by Mincha services at approximately 6:50 pm. (see the sidebar for times). The topic for the pre-Minchah shiur is "Chop suey - Making Israeli salad on Shabbat and Yom Tov." Come early and join in the interesting discussion.

**Torah Message from Rabbi Moldovan:** We all know that a Kosher animal requires two characteristics - split hooves and chewing of the cud. The camel, the hyrax, and the hare are listed in the Torah as non-Kosher animals since they do not have split hooves. Upon investigation of these verses one will notice an interesting grammatical nuance. A camel is not to be eaten since its hoof "is not split" - in the present tense, a hyrax's hoof "will not split" - in the future tense, and a hare's hoof "was not split" - in the past. This anomaly cannot be without significance. Rav Yisrael Salanter, the founder of the Mussar movement of character development, explains that the Torah is teaching us to what lengths we must go to be inclusive of every Jew. Just like a non-Kosher animal is only rejected if it is currently negative, had no positive past, and has no positive hope for the future, so too, a Jew can only be rejected if they are not only currently negative but also without positive heritage or upbringing, and with no hope for the future. There are countless instances of people who have made significant growth in their character traits and observance of Torah and Mitzvos in their later years, so it is practically impossible to estimate that there are those with no hope. Sure, we may need to distance ourselves from negative influences, but "one should always push aside with the left hand and attract with the right," according to the advice of the Gemarah. We should never give up on ourselves or on others.

## LECTURES BY DR. DOVID KATZ:

Dr. Dovid Katz, one of the world's leading authorities on the Yiddish language and on Eastern European Jewish history and culture, will be coming to our area as part of his 2016 North American Lecture Tour. On Wednesday, March 30 he will be delivering the *Inaugural Diane Feigenson Memorial Lecture in Jewish Literature* at Fairfield University and on Sunday, April 3, the *Louis and Edith Scheinberg Memorial Lecture at Congregation Agudath Sholom in Stamford*. Dovid Katz was Judy Lerner's fellow classmate at the Yeshivah of Flatbush High School and she describes him as brilliant, principled, and very engaging. The lectures are free and open to the public. Please see details below:

Wed., March 30, 7:30PM Fairfield University "Exotic Exploits and Contentious Chapters in Modern Yiddish Literature"

Sunday, April 3, 8PM Cong. Agudath Sholom, Stamford, CT "The Old Hebrew-Yiddish Conflict and Its Ongoing Legacies"  
[www.fairfield.edu/academics/schoolscenters/carlanddorothybennettcenterforjudaicstudies/lectures](http://www.fairfield.edu/academics/schoolscenters/carlanddorothybennettcenterforjudaicstudies/lectures)

Scheinberg Lecture: Dr. Dovid Katz

Schedule of Services:		
<b>Friday, April 1, 2016</b>		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		7:00 PM
Candle Lighting		7:00 PM
<b>Shabbat, April 2, 2016</b>		
Shabbat Shacharit		9:00 AM
Latest Shema Time		9:45 AM
Rabbi's Class		6:00 PM
Mincha		6:50 PM
Shabbat Ends		8:02 PM
<b>Sun-Thur, Apr 3-7, 2016</b>		
		*- Mincha +- Ma'ariv
Sun	8:30 AM	7:40 PM + A
Mon	6:30 AM	7:40 PM + K
Tue	6:45 AM	7:40 PM + K
Wed	6:45 AM	7:40 PM + B
Thur	6:30 AM	7:40 PM + A
<b>A - Ahavath Achim B - Bikur Cholim on Park &amp; Capitol Ave., Bpt K - Kollel on Arlington St., Bpt</b>		
*Mincha: Sun-Thur 2:40 PM at Kollel		
<b>Friday, April 8, 2016</b>		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		7:05 PM
Candle Lighting		7:08 PM
<b>Page Numbers:</b>		
<b>Torah Reading</b>		
Vayikra	9:1-11:47	588-607
<b>Maftir – Parsha Parah</b>		
Bamidbar	19:1-22	838-843
<b>Haftarah</b>		
Ezekiel	36:16-38	1216-1217

**Congregation Ahavath Achim on Social Media:** Don't forget to check the Ahavath Achim website for current updates. You can also read and post to the shul's Facebook page or Twitter

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<b>Email Addresses</b>	
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Office:	<a href="mailto:office@ahavathachim.org">office@ahavathachim.org</a>
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<b>Personal Contact Info</b>	
Rabbi Yirmiyah Moldovan	203-906-6296
Barbara Tuckel PhD Pres.	203-581-2405
Find us on: Facebook, Twitter, & LinkedIn	

**Shabbat Kiddush:** This Shabbat Kiddush will be sponsored by Seth and Judy Lerner to welcome Dr. Dovid Katz to our community.

**It's Time to Start Planning Our Annual Journal Event**

Yes, it is that time again, and we need to start early so that we can celebrate the selected honorees properly and make this a spectacularly successful fundraiser. We need volunteers willing to spend time organizing the ad collection and planning the event. Please email Barbara if you can serve at, [bktuckel1836@gmail.com](mailto:bktuckel1836@gmail.com).

**Pesach Food Drive:** Please join in supporting our local Kosher for Passover Food Drive. A collection box has been located in the shul entryway. All food

will be distributed by the Jewish Family Service to local needy Jewish families. Our own Eric Risch initiated this Mitzvah Project. Contact Eric Risch at [erisch@sarhighschool.org](mailto:erisch@sarhighschool.org) for more information.

**Rabbi's Shoprite Pesach Information Desk** - Rabbi Moldovan will be available for the broader community in ShopRite at Black Rock Turnpike in the lead-up to Pesach. At various times throughout the day, Rabbi Moldovan will have a stand in the Kosher section and will welcome any holiday questions and provide advice.

**Call for More Volunteers to Join Committee to Evaluate Secular and Judaic Contents of Synagogue** Now that we are further along in the process of selling the building, this Committee, under the leadership of Sara Klein, is continuing to dispose of unwanted/unused secular contents and earmarking what will probably be kept. This is a very challenging and detailed undertaking; more volunteers are needed. We must ensure that our synagogue's history is properly preserved by looking carefully at our contents and beginning to discuss what should be put aside to take with us. Please help by joining this important effort. Call the office or email Sara [sakl31@aol.com](mailto:sakl31@aol.com) if you can serve.

**Jewish Community Widow/Widowers Group will hold a Musical Brunch, Sunday, April 3,** 11 am-1 pm at Cong. Bnai Israel, 2710 Park Ave., Bridgeport. A Lite Kosher Dairy Brunch is provided at no cost. Sponsored by Jewish Family Service and the Congregations of the Greater Bridgeport Community; Ahavath Achim, Bnai Israel, Beth El, Bnai Torah, Bikur Cholim and Rodeph Sholom. RSVP to JFS at 203-366-5438 or [info@jfsct.org](mailto:info@jfsct.org)

**Refuah Shelemah to:** *Kenneth Epstein, Rabbi Moshe Epstein, David Gordon, Yitzy Hain, Deborah Lozanov, Joe Macy, Fred Schwartz, Diane Shinbaum and Peter Thau.* May G-d grant each a speedy and complete recovery.

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**Yahrtzeits for the week:**

Monday, April 4 – **Debra Kraut-Shear** (Father)  
Wednesday, April 7 – **Howard Klein**

Friday, April 9 – **Molly Serkin** (Mother)

Yahrtzeits begin at Ma'ariv the evening before. Please make an extra effort to ensure a minyan for those saying Kaddish. **Be there for others, and they'll be there for you.**

If you would like an Aliyah on the Shabbat before the Yahrtzeit, please make sure you are in Shul before Torah Reading. If you arrive late, we cannot guarantee you an honor.

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**Please remember that Golden Book greeting cards are a great way to honor someone or remember a loved one.**