

Whitestone Hebrew Centre Bulletin

12-45 Clintonville St. Whitestone, NY 11357



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

שנה טובה!

תשפ"ב 5782



שלום

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Volume XXXI No. 1

September 2021

Elul 5781 — Tishrei 5782

Schedule of High Holiday Services

S'LICHOT

Saturday Night August 28th

Program 9:00 PM - Service 11:00 PM



ROSH HASHANAH

First Night - Monday September 6th - 6:00 PM

First Day - Tuesday September 7th - 9:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Second Day - Wednesday September 8th - 9:30 AM

Tashlich (weather permitting) - Wednesday September 8th - 5:30 PM



YOM KIPPUR

Kol Nidrei - Wednesday September 15th - 6:30 PM

Yom Kippur Day (Yizkor) - Thursday September 16th - 9:30 AM



Schedule of Sukkot Services

First Night - Monday September 20th - 6:00 PM

First Day - Tuesday September 21st - 9:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Second Day - Wednesday September 22nd - 9:30 AM



Shemini Atzeret

Monday September 27th - 6:00 PM

Tuesday September 28th (Yizkor) - 9:30 AM

Simchat Torah

Tuesday September 28th - 6:00 PM

Wednesday September 29th - 9:30 AM





WHC Bulletin Staff

Rabbi Steven Axelman,
Editor
Sharon Samet
Patricia Smolker

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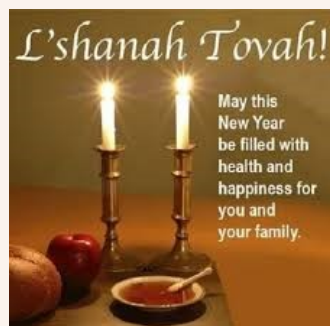
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Corresponding/Recording Secretary -
Ron Kohn

Sisterhood President
Naomi Gukowsky

Rabbi Steven Axelman

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FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

I do not know many people who would have predicted a year ago that we would still (or once again) be restricting activities due to the corona virus. Months ago there were high hopes that with a large percentage of the population being vaccinated, herd immunity would have been achieved and the world would return to somewhat normal. Unfortunately, neither here in the U.S. nor in Israel has that picture materialized. Though many of us are going about most of our lives in a pre-covid way, many are still mostly staying at home, being very careful where they go when outside, wearing masks most or all of the time, even having been vaccinated. Sadly, in addition to the other inconveniences caused by all this, society, including the Jewish community is again driven apart rather than together, as each side of the "debate" blames the other for either spreading disease or restricting freedoms. Here at the WHC we have been open for more than a year, with those who are comfortable attending services, and most Shabbosim we have a minyan. For the most part, each person decides on their own how careful to be regarding distancing and masks and I am convinced that it is only for the good that we are open and provide a place for people to congregate, socialize, pray and even eat a good lunch after Shabbos morning services, thanks to Sharon's hard work. We have been zooming most services as well over the last year, although after the holidays no firm decision has been made about continuing to do so. There are arguments on both sides (when aren't there?) but per Jewish law, other than when no other choice is available for a community, it is definitely best to avoid the

use of electronics on Shabbos. God does not hold anyone to account who cannot perform any mitzvah, not by fault of their own. Those who have reason to feel it is not a healthy choice to participate in communal services should follow their feelings as well.

As I have mentioned before, at most funerals I quote King Solomon in Ecclesiastes saying there is "a time for embracing and a time for distancing". Until a year ago, the latter seemed pretty strange.

All the autumn holidays fall in September this year with Rosh Hashana beginning on Labor Day. Since I am one of the lucky ones who does not have to spend my summer in the mountains, this causes me no inconvenience.

The period beginning Rosh Hashana and ending Yom Kippur is traditionally considered a time for introspection and working on how we treat others and relate to God. We pray that by the end of Yom Kippur, God has accepted our prayers and allows us to start a new year with a clean slate. It is sometimes easy to forget that God can forgive any sin but will not do so if one has harmed someone else, physically, psychologically, or in any way, without asking to be forgiven.

As I write this, though Sukkot does not begin for several more weeks, WHC's Sukkah has been built, thanks to Bruce Berenson and Ed (the husband of Michele from Peewee). We look forward to having kiddush and shabbat lunch in the sukkah this year as well.

Per Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch (19th-century Germany), there is an amazing message to be learned from the materials

(Continued on page 3)

SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood President's Message

Hope everyone had a happy and healthy summer. Leon and I enjoyed our two pools. The water was wonderful. It was good to see and be with all of our friends again during the summer. Please do a mitzvah and call our senior members to ask if they need anything or just to chat for a while. Hearing a friendly voice will lift their spirits. Sisterhood wishes everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Naomi Gukowsky
Sisterhood President

Prayer Book Fund - July 2021

Inscribed Prayer Book in memory of Esther Cohen
- Evelyn Apter

Inscribed Prayer Book in memory of Rhoda Weinstein
- Evelyn Apter

Inscribed Prayer Books in memory of Gilda Bluestone
- Sisterhood WHC

Making Contributions

For many years Sisterhood has offered the service of sending cards from all those who wish to acknowledge both Simchas and Condolences. The response from the recipients is most heart warming. The following funds are available:

Simcha Fund.....\$10
Chai Fund\$18
Prayer Book Fund.....\$10
Inscribed Prayer Books\$25

The recipient receives an acknowledgement of the contribution and it is printed in the monthly Bulletin, so all can share the feelings expressed. To place orders, call Patricia Smolker at (718) 746-7068.

Checks for the above funds should be made payable to "Sisterhood of WHC".

September Happy Birthdays



Lazer Axelman

Liliya Berezovsky

Jenna Berenson

Judi Glass

*Editor's note: If your birthday should be listed on this page and is not, please call the office at (718) 767-1500 and give us your date of birth. Thank you.

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

(Continued from page 2)

that go into making a Succah. The rules of the walls being kosher no matter their material but the roof (s'chach) having to be something that grows, is no longer attached to the ground and not yet been formed by man's hands into something useful convey a lesson that however greatly we may differ in the social conditions that separate us here below on earth, whether the space that one man calls his own is enclosed in marble walls, wooden ones, or walls that barely protect at all, in that which protects us from above we are all equal. The s'chach is the same for all; the beggar and the millionaire both are to reject both Man and Nature as the protective power of their lives. In living temporarily under s'chach, we are all to be reminded that, in what protects us and in God's eyes, we are all fundamentally the same.

The other Mitzvah on Succot is to shake the *Arba Minim* (four kinds), i.e., the *Lulav* (palm frond), *Etrog* (citron), *Hadassim* (myrtles) and *Aravot* (willows). Though some like to associate these with the bounties of a harvest, Rabbi Hirsch points out that since none of these are edible, nor are they among the

fruits that Israel is noted for, that is a rather silly notion. Among the various symbolisms ascribed to these objects is the idea that the *Etrog* looks similar to a heart, the *Lulav* to a spine, the *Hadassim* to eyes and the *Aravot* to lips, suggesting that all the parts of the body come together in the service of God.

The day immediately following Succot (or the 8th day if we look at the entire 9 days as one holiday) is known as Sh'mini Atzeret. On that day, Jews recite a special prayer that rain should fall in the proper time and amounts, as this is the beginning of the rainy season in Israel. The final day is known as Simchat Torah. Both the evening before and the day of, Jews around the world celebrate the end of the annual cycle of reading the Torah each Shabbat and beginning anew, with singing, dancing and joy. Unfortunately, again this year the regular celebration of Simchat Torah, both in Israel and the diaspora, will be severely curtailed.

With best wishes for a full return to normal and a Happy and Healthy New Year to all!



Recent positive news generated by Israel, of which we can all be proud.
(Articles below are excerpts of originals only)



Israeli scientist says COVID-19 could be treated for under \$1/day

Maayan Jaffe-Hoffman August 2, 2021

[Jpost.com](https://www.jpost.com)



Ivermectin, a drug used to fight parasites in third-world countries, could help reduce the length of infection for people who contract coronavirus for less than a \$1 a day, according to recent research by [Sheba Medical Center](#) in Tel Hashomer. Prof. Eli Schwartz, founder of the Center for Travel Medicine and Tropical Disease at Sheba, conducted a randomized, controlled, double-blinded trial from May 15, 2020, through the end of January 2021 to evaluate the effectiveness of ivermectin in reducing viral shedding among non-hospitalized patients with mild to moderate COVID-19. Ivermectin has been approved by the US Food and Drug

Administration since 1987. The drug's discoverers were awarded the 2015 Nobel Prize in medicine for its treatment of onchocerciasis, a disease caused by infection with a parasitic roundworm. In Schwartz's study, some 89 eligible volunteers over the age of 18 who were diagnosed with [coronavirus](#) and staying in state-run COVID-19 hotels were divided into two groups: 50% received ivermectin, and 50% received a placebo, according to their weight. Nearly 72% of volunteers treated with ivermectin tested negative for the virus by day six. In contrast, only 50% of those who received the placebo tested negative.

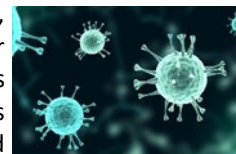
Israeli scientists offer innovative approach to battle COVID

By TPS August 18, 2021

[worldisraelnews.com](https://www.worldisraelnews.com)

A new therapeutic approach developed by Weizmann Institute scientists could spell new hope in the battle against the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Though vaccines may be steering the world toward a post-pandemic normal, a constantly mutating SARS-CoV-2 necessitates the development of effective drugs. In a new study published in *Nature Microbiology*, Weizmann Institute of Science researchers, together with collaborators from the Pasteur Institute, France, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the US, offer a novel therapeutic approach to combating the notorious virus. Rather than targeting the viral protein responsible for the virus entering the cell, the team of researchers addressed the protein on the human cells' membrane that enables this entry. Using an advanced artificial

evolution method that they developed, the researchers generated a molecular "super cork" that physically jams this "entry port," thus preventing the virus from attaching itself to the cell and entering it. "Since the virus is constantly evolving we have, instead, focused on the non-evolving human receptor called ACE2 that acts as the entry site for the virus," said Prof. Gideon Schreiber, of Weizmann's Biomolecular Sciences Department, who supervised the new study. This approach is not susceptible to new emerging virus variants, which is one of the main challenges in fighting the pandemic.



Israelis Create 'Hybrid' Human-Animal Organ for Transplants

By United With Israel Staff Jul 5, 2021

[unitedwithisrael.org](https://www.unitedwithisrael.org)



Researchers at Tel Aviv's Beilinson Hospital may have found a solution for the human body's rejection of animal organ transplants. They developed a "hybrid" organ with both animal and human qualities. Dr. Shahar Cohen explained to the *Jerusalem Post* that the primary reason for organ rejection is the internal lining of the transplanted

organ's blood vessels. The coating serves as a point of contact. He added that the hybrid method has been successfully tried with several organs, including the heart, lungs, liver, kidney and pancreas. Cohen hopes to begin transplanting the hybrid organs into humans in five years. The availability of hybrid organs would dramatically cut down patients' waiting time for organ donations.

Israeli breakthrough migraine treatment 'zaps' away pain

Maayan Jaffe-Hoffman July 3, 2021

[jpost.com](https://www.jpost.com)

Breakthrough Israeli technology for treating acute [migraine headaches](#) has been found to be more effective than standard-care medications for adolescents, according to a new study published in the *Oxford Journal of the American Academy of Pain Medicine*. Nerivio, a remote electrical neuromodulation (REN) device developed by Netanya-based Theranica, activates

the body's native conditioned pain modulation mechanism to treat headache and other symptoms associated with migraine by stimulating the free nerve endings in the upper arm.



TAU Technology Restores Sense of Touch in Damaged Nerves After Amputation

July 12, 2021

jewishpress.com



Tel Aviv University's new and groundbreaking technology inspires hope among people who have lost their sense of touch in the nerves of a limb following amputation or injury. The technology involves a tiny sensor that is implanted in the nerve of the injured limb, for example in the finger and is connected directly to a healthy nerve. Each time the

limb touches an object, the sensor is activated and conducts an electric current to the functioning nerve, which recreates the feeling of touch. The researchers emphasize that this is a tested and safe technology that is suited to the human body and could be implanted anywhere inside of it once clinical trials will be done.

Israeli startup BlueGreen Water Technologies wins Global Water Awards

Arutz Sheva Staff, Jul 13, 2021

israelnationalnews.com

BlueGreen Water Technologies, Ltd., a global watertech company that provides innovative solutions to toxic algae blooms, has been named the Global Water Awards "2021 Breakthrough Technology Company of the Year" by Global Water Intelligence. BlueGreen was selected as the early-stage technology company which has made the most impressive commercial breakthrough into the global water technology market for its groundbreaking solution to treat cyanobacteria blooms in bodies of water regardless of location, size, or shape.

"We are extremely proud that our technology is enabling life by making water safe again," said Dr. Moshe Harel, Founder, Inventor and CSO at BlueGreen. "It is an honor to be selected as the Breakthrough Technology Company of the Year and to be recognized for the groundbreaking work and commitment to enable people access to clean water everywhere every day."



Israeli 'Spiderman' Tech Spins New Artificial Skin for Patients

By Yafit Ovadia, Jul 20, 2021

unitedwithisrael.org



Treating burns, wounds, and scars presents both psychological and physical hindrances. This treatment also becomes complex, costly, and can deprive a patient of the use of that limb or area. Yet one

biotech company, Nanomedic Technologies, has engineered an artificial skin that is 3D-printed, is affixed directly onto a patient's skin, and after 24-48 hours allows patients to use that area as they normally would, explained Gary Sagiv, VP of Marketing & Sales at Nanomedic. "We have leveraged our electrospinning technology to develop a commercialized

franchise handheld device for wound care that prints a nanofiber matrix directly onto a patient's wound, via 3D printing, and treats three specific areas, primarily burns, trauma, and wound care," Sagiv said, adding: "People quip our technology is reminiscent of Spiderman."

The company's artificial bandage can treat any type of burn wounds, whether they were from chemical or electrical fires, as well as patients suffering from skiing or motorcycle accidents or with any type of physical skin abrasion. Sagiv added that it can be used for additional ailments such as diabetic foot wounds or even gunshot wounds

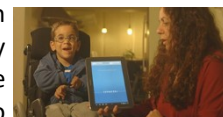
Israeli app makes communication easy for those with speech difficulties

By Abigail Klein Leichman, Jul 25, 2021

worldisraelnews.com

Danny Weissberg's grandmother struggled to communicate after suffering a stroke. While visitors had difficulty understanding her impaired speech, her full-time caregiver gradually learned to understand it. Working as a software developer in high-tech companies including Check Point, Radvision and HP since 1999, Weissberg spotted the potential of early machine-learning technology to mimic what the caregiver had done naturally. He founded Voiceitt to harness that technology. The Ramat Gan-based company's new app empowers individuals with non-standard speech to communicate with others and control smart-home devices using their own voice.

"Voice interface became dominant with products such as Siri, Cortana, Alexa, Bixby and Google Assistant. We thought maybe we had something interesting to offer to these big corporates to make their products accessible to a wider population that needs these voice assistants the most," says Weissberg. Any atypical speech makes using voice assistants difficult, whether it's slurred pronunciation, a heavy accent, or speaking a language that's not supported by the technology.





Thank you for Donations -- Summer 2021

Yahrzeit

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Loren Klee-Weiss	Shira Rubinstein	Jeffrey and Diane Wiener

General Donations

In memory of Diana Lee Goldberg

Alan & Sheldon Goldberg

In honor of Ron Kohn finishing a segment of his ongoing studies

Arthur Isman

In memory of Esther Cohen

Meryl Hoffmann

Donation to WHC

WHC Sisterhood

In memory of Esther Cohen

Ellis Rosenblatt

SHOFAR AT HOME



The Torah states: "And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a holy convocation, you shall do no customary work, for you it is a day of blowing the shofar." The penultimate mitzvah of Rosh Hashanah is to hear the sounding of the shofar. We know that some members of our congregation, for various reasons, are unable to attend services in person and participate in this important observance. Therefore, Bruce Berenson and Ronald Kohn would like the honor and privilege of coming to your home on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Tuesday, September 7, and sounding the shofar for you and your families. This would occur approximately 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you would like to be included, please contact either one of us directly or the shul office. May you be inscribed for a year of health.

B'Shalom, Bruce and Ron

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Condolences

To the Bluestone family
on the loss of Harold and Gilda Bluestone

**המקום ינחם אתכם
בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים**

May their memories be a blessing

SCHEDULE OF WHC CLASSES

(led by Rabbi Axelman)

Sundays @12:45 PM -- Talmud Class

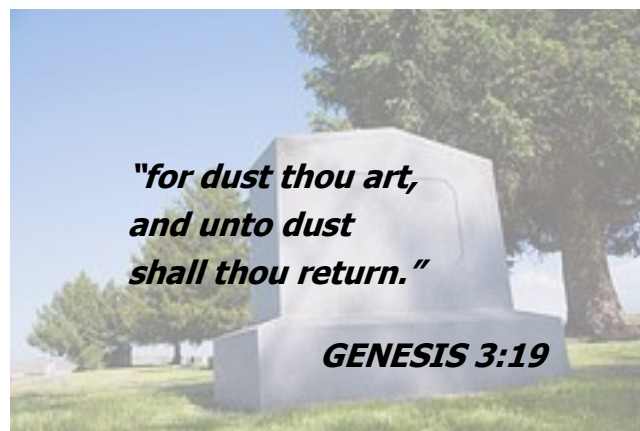
Mondays @7:00 PM -- Judaism 101

Explore Your Questions

Please check our website
for updated days and times of classes.
Currently classes are being streamed
on zoom and not being held in person.

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