

CENTER LIGHT



VAN CORTLANDT JEWISH CENTER

www.vcjewishcenter.org



Vol. LXVIII No. 2

FEBRUARY 2012

SHEVAT - ADAR 5772

RABBI'S MOTHER – ROSE BORENSTEIN
A POEM about late daughter Naomi Gail Borenstein Mark
Yehudis Nechama bas Sona Chaim ob'm

17th Yahrzeit - 15th Teves 5772

OUR PRECIOUS CHOMMIE

Yehudis Nechama ob'm is your name
Jewish comfort is your fame!
Even your own Bubby called you Mommy Chommie
Because to all who knew you, you were a Mommie.

Everyone's needs were your concern
And accomplish you did with a twist and a turn!
The impossible didn't exist for you
'Cause Hashem made it all come true!
You're Deeds of Loving kindness
Just to mention a few
Were a rarity to encounter, even for you!

Whether it was the Talmud Torah children
Who were no longer alone
Or the child who wanted to eat kosher,
For whom you brought food from home!

Or the friend whose baby you cared for alone
And did it as though he was your very own
Even while you brought the ailing mother
Food and grape juice too
So she could have the rest of Shabbos
As a precious Jew.

You taught Torah in such a way to one and all
So that all your beloved students were having a ball!
One, I know of went to Israel to continue his studies
And became a Torah scholar with new found buddies!

He probably ended up starting a family tree
Instead of his life Heaven forfend
becoming a calamity!

(continued page 5)

* SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA *

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER AT OUR
ANNUAL SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA
DINNER & PROGRAM
FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH, 2nd

Brought to you by the National Jewish
Outreach Program (NJOP)

Hundreds of synagogues and Jewish organizations across America will take part in the historic national Jewish event to celebrate what unifies all Jews - - Shabbat! Tens of thousands of Jews will come together to eat, drink, relax, dance and enjoy, debate and celebrate.

Once again the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center will open its doors to observant and to non-observant people alike so that they may experience and rejoice in a traditional Shabbos service and a festive Shabbos meal. Since we are outreaching to the entire community please bring a friend along with you.

This year we have Aryeth Stavsky who will lead the Friday evening Carlebach Style Kabbalat Shabbos Services and lead the singing at the Friday evening meal.

A flyer is enclosed in this Center Light.

► Rabbi's Lecture Series ◀

Wednesday, February 29 at 7:15 pm
Rabbi Borenstein – The Customs and
Four Rabbinic Commandments of Purim
No Admission Fee
Refreshments will be served...

CANDLE LIGHTING SCHEDULE

BLESSING OVER THE CANDLES



First light the candles, then spread your hands out around the candles, drawing your hands inward in a circular motion three times to indicate the acceptance of the sanctity of Shabbat. Then cover your eyes and recite the following blessing:

"Boruch A-toh Ado-noi, E-lo-hei-nu Melech
Ho-olom A-sher Ki-de-sha-nu Be-mitz-vo-sov
Vi-tzi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel
Sha-bos Ko-desh"

KINDLE THE SABBATH LIGHTS

<u>Candle Lighting Schedule</u>		<u>Shabbos Ends</u>
Fri. Feb. 3	4:57	6:01
Fri. Feb. 10	5:06	6:10
Fri. Feb. 17	5:14	6:18
Fri. Feb. 24	5:23	6:27

★ SCHEDULE OF SERVICES ★

PLEASE ATTEND & GUARANTEE OUR MINYANIM

Morning Services:

Saturday	8:45
Sunday	8:30
Monday & Thursday	6:50
Tues., Wed. & Fri.	7:00
Mon. Feb. 20 Presidents' Day	8:30
Thurs. & Friday Feb. 23 & 24	
Rosh Chodesh – Adar	6:30

Evening Services:

Sunday thru Thursday		Friday
Feb. 1 - 2	5:05	5:00
Feb. 5 - 9	5:15	5:10
Feb. 12 - 16	5:25	5:20
Feb. 19 - 23	5:35	5:25
Feb. 26 - 29	5:40	

▶ VAN CORTLANDT VILLAGE NOTES ◀

MAZEL TOV! ~

. . . . Phil Friedman on the Bar Mitzvah of his grandson, Rafi Friedman, the youngest of Phil's five grandsons. Congratulations to parents Elliott and Lorey, grandmother Marilyn Axel, Uncle Marvin and Aunt Terri, Uncle Marc and Rafi's five siblings.

REFUAH SHLEMAH ~

. . . Rose Borenstein, Andrew Buchhalter, Gary Buchhalter, Richard Buchhalter, Joe Chase, Mia Lande, Dorothy Nankin, Jules Rubinstein, Beatrice Shorr, Rebbitzen Jean Sodden & Michael Winkler

UPCOMING EVENTS—MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Wed. Feb. 29 – Lecture Series with Rabbi Borenstein
- Friday, March 2nd – Shabbat Across America

Shalle Seudos ~

Shabbos Feb. 4 – Tu B'Shevat
Shabbos Feb. 11 – Neil Harrow
Shabbos Feb. 18 – Sol Feiner
Shabbos Feb. 25 – Alan Paul Katz

**Please do not bring your cell phones
to Shabbos services. If you must, have it
preset to vibrate mode.**

THE CENTER LIGHT VAN CORTLANDT JEWISH CENTER

3880 Sedgwick Ave.
Bronx, NY 10463

Phone (718) 884-6105 Fax (718) 884-6106

www.vcjewishcenter.org

Affiliated with the Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America

Rabbi	David Borenstein
Rabbi	Jacob Sodden κνζ
President	Robert Gillman
Vice Presidents	Phillip Friedman Howard Leventhal
Treasurer	Stuart Harris
Secretary	Marc Friedman
Sisterhood President	Helen Wegsman
Office Manager	Roberta Seidner
Office Assistant	Claire Haime

The reward for your many good deeds
And mitzvahs you merited to do
Are now in Heaven I'm sure you know that too!

You asked to be remembered but who could forget
You're so much a part of us, so please don't fret
We cherish your memory, you're part of our soul
You're the part that makes each of us feel whole

Your ways and deeds though truly first rate
We want so much to emulate
In Far Rockaway, Lakewood, Monsey and Israel
We pray to Hashem to elevate your soul.

Your most wonderful children and grandchildren,
(may they multiply) one and all
Have your good nature and in any crowd stand very tall
Thank G-d in their Torah learning, character traits
and good deeds too
Their exemplary behavior makes us proud to be a Jew!

Each of your offspring is Thank G-d a rare diamond to behold
May Hashem continue to guide and protect them like pure gold!

We're sure you Thank G-d derive tremendous Pride from above

May Hashem continue to Bless each and every one of them with
His great love!

What can we say, what can we do
We want to feel so close to you
Even as we pray to Hashem for the soul of Yehudis Nechama
To be brought closer to the Heavenly Throne
And take care of this wonderful (soul) Neshama!

Chommie our precious one please beg and implore Hashem as
you know how
Without delay to bring Moshiach now!

***OUR PRECIOUS CHOMMIE**

Reprinted with permission of The 5 Towns Jewish Times
Rabbi David Borenstein

PURIM IS COMING!

Purim falls out on March 7 & 8
March 7th is the Fast of Esther and
Reading of the Megillah in the evening

Once again we will have our very successful Purim
Card Program where you can send a greeting to
your friends & family and, at the same time,
support the shul.

EDUCATION & YOUTH COMMITTEE

It's back for the 8th consecutive year. The Van Cortlandt Jewish Center is proud to join with hundreds of shuls across the United States and Canada in hosting another Shabbos Across America on Friday evening, March 2nd. We are also delighted to announce that the very popular Aryeh Stavsky, who has entertained so well at our Chanukah and Israel Independence Day parties will be our guest Chazan (Cantor) for the evening. It's an exhilarating evening!

We take an ordinary Friday night dinner and turn it into an extraordinary Shabbos Across America/Canada experience. We open our doors to practicing and non-practicing Jews alike, so that they may join together to experience and rejoice in a traditional Shabbos service and festive meal led by Rabbi David Borenstein and by guest Chazan Aryeh Stavsky. We will have an interactive traditional Shabbos with all the rituals explained. It's always been the motto of the Education and Youth Committee to "bring people in" and we cannot accept the fact that the Van Cortlandt Jewish community is an endangered species. While many have not experienced a traditional Shabbos experience, we can and we will reunite them with an exciting and modern way of reintroducing them to a practice that has been with our people for over 300 years.

We will begin services at 5:35 pm and dinner will be approximately 6:45 pm. The cost is \$25 per person. Newcomers will be \$15.00 and children under 12 \$10

The evening is under the chairmanship of the most capable Howie Leventhal. I expect all of you to come!

The committee has extended its Holocaust Memorial essay contests to the children and to the grandchildren of those who read the Center Light. They must be teenagers. The following topics are suggested. A) Interview with a Holocaust survivor (B) Why the Holocaust deniers are dangerous (C) What the Holocaust means to me (D) Any other topic that is relevant to the Holocaust. Essay should be limited to 500 words. The prizes are 1st prize \$100 – 2nd prize \$50 – 3rd prize \$25. All prizes are in cash. To get an essay form, please call the synagogue office at 718 884-6105. The deadline for all essays is Monday, March 12. All winners will read their essay at our Holocaust Memorial Program on Wednesday evening, April 18th.

*Neil Harrow, President
Education & Youth Committee*

❖ RABBI'S LECTURE SERIES ❖

The Van Cortlandt Jewish Center is pleased to announce its **ANNUAL LECTURE SERIES** the last Wednesday of each month from December 2011 through June 2012.

#1) December 28 – Mr. Larry Hartstein -- The Macabees and the story of Chanukah

#2) **January 25 – at 7:00 pm - - Mr. Ron Meier - The recent rise of Anti-Semitism, nationally and regionally. Mr. Ron Meier is the NY Regional Director of the ADL (Anti-Defamation League)**

#3) February 29 – Rabbi Borenstein – The Customs and Four Rabbinic Commandments of Purim

#4) March 28 – Rabbi Borenstein – The Minimum Needed in Passover Preparations/Seder

A flier with the remainder of the topics and lecturers for April 25, May 30 and June 27 will be mailed out when finalized.

Please join us for informative evenings followed by refreshments

RABBI DAVID BORENSTEIN

PURIM IS COMING!

Purim falls out on March 7 & 8
March 7th is the Fast of Esther and Reading of the Megillah in the evening

Once again we will have our very successful Purim Card Program where you can send a greeting to your friends & family and at the same time support the shul.
Flyers will be going out in January....

★ YAHRZEITS ★

FEBRUARY 2012

<u>Feb</u>		<u>Shevat</u>
1	Sandy Friedland	8
1	Samuel Haren	8
1	Ruth Orloff	8
1	Leonard Wolf	8
2	Jack Yesbek	9
3	Rose Pushkin	10
4	Joseph Schwab	11
4	Edith Levine	11
4	Toby Gritz	11
4	Rachel Schlonsky	11
5	Ellis J. Moss	12
5	Isaac Feigen	12
5	Moe Geller	12
5	Abe Smerling	12
5	Beatrice Rothfleish	12
6	Samuel Kriedman	13
6	Jack Orange	13
7	Minnie Weitzman	14
7	Minnie Vontosh	14
8	Bella Cohen	15
8	Pauline Imas	15
8	Al Bronstein	15
9	Tillie Weiss	16
11	Solomon Honig	18
11	Helen Greenbaum	18
12	Meyer Walzer	19
12	Bob Centre	19
12	Irving Boyarsky	19
12	Isidor Grumet	19
13	Moe Pushkin	20
13	Rose Cooper	20
15	Anna Green	22
15	Max Goldberg	22
15	Joseph Teig	22
16	Bessie Cohen	23
17	Joseph Feiner	24
17	Frieda Pollack	24
17	Morris Salant	24
18	Jack Baiser	25
18	Bernard Gollop	25
18	Miriam Rivkah Ghelberg	25
18	Perry Siegel	25
19	Teresa Pinkowitz	26
19	Esther Satosky	26
19	Irving Merritt	26
20	Gertrude Chasan	27
20	Norman Verkman	27
20	Sara Herzal	27

★ YAHRZEITS ★

FEBRUARY 2012

<u>Feb</u>		<u>Shevat</u>
20	Dr. Harry Marcus	27
20	Laura Friedman	27
20	Anna Kaufman	27
20	George Pushkin	27
21	Abraham Sultan	28
21	Clair Hyman Greenfield	28
22	Minnie Feiner	29
22	Herman Markbreiter	29
23	Solomon Suffian	30
23	Martin Harold Yaeger	30
		Adar
24	Rabbi Henry Katz	1
24	Hyman P. Moldover	1
24	Charles Rosenbaum	1
24	Beatrice Fischer	1
25	Regina Guttman	2
25	Beckie Sugin	2
25	Alan Solomon	2
27	Rose Josephs	4
27	Isidore Heyman	4
28	Suzanne Weitzman	5
28	Michael Shmid	5
28	Bessie Reznitsky	5
28	Rebecca Nacman	5
29	Deborah Sexter	6
29	Frances Manheimer	6
29	Mildred Heit	6

 REMEMBER TO
LIGHT A
YAHRZEIT CANDLE
THE NIGHT BEFORE

THE VAN CORTLANDT
JEWISH CENTER
WISHES TO THANK ALL
THOSE WHO MAKE
DONATIONS TO OUR
SYNAGOGUE
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
WE ARE MOST
APPRECIATIVE.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

The Sisterhood of the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center invites both men and women to join us on **Sunday, February 26th between 2:00 – 4:00 pm** for a few hours of socializing with various games. Coffee and cake will be served. You are welcome to bring your own games if you wish. Everyone's a winner, no prizes awarded! Just relax and enjoy.

There is a small donation of \$5.00 per person to defray the cost of expenses.

Please return the bottom portion with your payment made payable to Sisterhood VCJC.

Hope to see you then.

Helen Wegsman
President

=====✂
SISTERHOOD GAME AFTERNOON
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
2:00 pm

Donation: \$5.00 per person

Name _____

Phone # _____

How many _____

Amount enclosed _____

Check payable to:
Sisterhood VCJC