



The Glance

NVHC's Quarterly Magazine

**FROM PURIM TO
PESACH**
DOMINATION TO
DEMOCRACY
PAGE 2

**TEENS FIND
THEIR PLACE
AT NVHC**
PAGE 3

**NVHC GOES
GREEN**
INTRODUCING THE
GREEN TEAM
PAGE 9

CONTENTS



1
The Meaning of Community

2
From Purim to Pesach-Domination to Democracy

3
Teens Find Their Place at NVHC

5
NVHC Around the World

6
How I realized the Holiness of NVHC Name Tags

7
Happy Birthday

8
Help Our Community with NVHC Change

9
VOICE at a Glance

9
NVHC Goes Green!

10
Why Food Pack?

11
Sisterhood: Talking the Talk and Walking the Walk

12
Chavurah Corner

12
Mazel Tov & New Members

13
Crossword Puzzle

14
Tzedakah

Cover: Our teens visit the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr memorial as part of *L'taken* on January 28, 2019.
Top: Joe Shapiro tests one of the props for the Tamid Schul-In on February 22, 2019.
Middle: Bess Eisenstadt leads her *chavurah* in a *Tu B'Shevat* seder in February, 2019.
Bottom: Members of the NVHC community bake challah for our Shabbaton on February 1, 2019.

Spring has sprung at NVHC

Office windows are opening, flowers are beginning to bloom, and every day the beautiful sound of our Preschoolers' laughter filters through the synagogue. Spring is finally upon us, and we are so excited for all the programs we have in store for you. From Adult Purim Comedy Night to the Second Night Seder, Dueling Pianos to Confirmation, we hope you can join us for some or all of these events.

We've added some new features to this edition of The Glance: a *Chavurah* Corner, Travel Column, and articles directly from the hearts of some of our congregants. Let us know what you think—we are always excited to hear from you!

See you soon,

Emily Hummel
Communications Coordinator

David Markovich
Temple Administrator

The NVHC Editorial Team
Ana Leirner | Peggy Nelson | Deede Snowwhite

The Meaning of Community

A note from Betty Donskoy

Thank you to everyone who came to the Shabbat morning service on January 12, and to those who wanted to come but couldn't. It was a beautiful healing service for all who participated. I am grateful to Rabbi Holzman for his idea of chanting 40 verses of Torah, and I am grateful to all who stood with me and others. I used to understand the meaning of "community" with my head. Now I also understand the meaning with my **heart!**



Photo courtesy of the Washington Post

From Purim to Pesach— Domination to Democracy

Rabbi Michael G. Holzman

The key moment in the Purim story is when King Ahashverosh fires all of his advisors and appoints Haman his sole viceroy. He does this in the name of security, locking down the lines of authority after a failed coup attempt. The result of such concentration of power is predictable: despotism and tyranny.

What is fascinating is the response of the Jews. In a caper of intrigue and drama, Mordechai and Esther scheme to trap Haman and save the Jews, but really, they did nothing to fix the system. They just replaced one bloodthirsty anti-Semite with bloodthirsty Jews. While this might be good for our team, it is not exactly what God had in mind when we became the “Chosen People” or the “Light Unto the Nations.” The underlying problem remained: when authority and leadership becomes exclusive, locking out divergent opinions and voices, violence results.

But, one might ask, if the Jews are not supposed to unite against the enemy, how are we to defeat evil and combat injustice? The answer can be found one month after Purim on Pesach (Passover). This too is a story about overcoming a tyrant who has concentrated power in his own hands. Egyptian society goes so far as to elevate Pharaoh

to diety-level power. This is the Category 5 Hurricane of despotism. But Moses and God do not defeat it by creating another Hurricane. Rather, they drain the energy from the storm by taking Israel to Sinai and establishing a new system, one that includes generals, judges, elders, tribal heads, priests, and prophets. Moses spreads leadership throughout the community and in a stroke of genius, the Torah ends by declaring, “Never again did there arise amongst Israel a prophet like Moses who spoke face to face with God.” In other words, leadership should never be concentrated even to the Moses level of power, but should be shared throughout the community.

Both Purim and Pesach are about overturning evil, but that is just about the only thing they have in common. Purim is a farce, from the opening story about a party lasting six months to the final pages detailing bloodsoaked revenge. Pesach, by contrast, is a carefully structured dismantling of Egyptian power and society, and the construction of a replacement; beginning at the foot of Mt. Sinai and continuing through the journey into the desert.

This journey from Purim to Pesach reflects the learning we have done at NVHC in the past year. Beginning with our Congregational Conversation about going to the March for our Lives one year ago, we have considered not only how we can speak out when we see injustice, but also how we can deliberate, discuss, dialog, and decide. How we can cultivate within our community and our selves the ability to disagree constructively, to respect

dissent, and to reach compromise on decisions that no one individual could generate without collaboration.

Our work has created the Rebuilding Democracy Project, a series of events like Congregational Conversations, the Great Texts of America, and a partnership with our Distinguished Speaker's Series that has raised the virtues of citizenship to the top of our synagogue agenda. Internally, we are stronger and healthier with these new skills, and externally, we are at the vanguard of the efforts to fortify the foundations of the American Covenant.

This work has been part of our Social Action Committee and fits into our larger constellation of service projects, learning and advocacy with a variety of partner organizations. We cannot do any of this work without your support. So, last year we decided to consolidate our support for Cornerstones, VOICE, the backpack program (serving both Forest Edge and Clearview Elementaries), HIAS, MAZON, and other organizations into one campaign. In addition, with these funds, we have been able to spur congregant creativity and new projects, and also support learning initiatives around social justice issues.

This happens because of our *Tikkun Olam* Campaign. Thank you for helping us surpass last year's total and ensuring that this year we top \$36,000 in funds raised to support Social Action. None of this support goes to the NVHC budget and all of it goes to our partnerships and special projects.

This is how we respond to the Hamans and Pharaohs of the world. It would be simpler for each of us to put up our fists and go out and fight anyone we perceive as the enemy. That is what the Jews did in *Megillat Esther* (the scroll of Esther we read on Purim). I am so proud that NVHC has chosen the path of Pesach, defeating injustice while building something better to replace it.



Teens Find Their Place at NVHC

Rabbi Jessica Wainer

Engagement in our community takes its shape in many different forms, especially when it comes to our amazing teens. On top of their schoolwork and a myriad of extra-curricular activities, we have a plethora of youth who are passionately engaging with their Judaism. Our teens come from a place of curiosity and intrigue, from a place of questioning and pushing the boundaries, and from a place of loving to learn and learning to love. Most importantly, our teens are continually developing their Jewish identities, proud to be Jews in Northern Virginia, and even prouder to be teens from Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation.

Over the past few years, we expanded many ways our teens can engage with their Judaism, in both formal and informal settings. We provide opportunities for our teens in Tamid to learn about Jewish comedy, great Jewish texts, and Israeli politics. Monthly, our Tamid teens participate in our backpack packing program for Clearview Elementary School and engage in challenging discussions around climate change, race, mental health, and wellness. But we also spend time playing games in our newly redecorated youth lounge and finding the hidden gems of our building during scavenger hunts.

Tamid has been the catalyst for our teens to engage with their Judaism in the wider Jewish community. This year alone, we have had our largest attendance

of teens at our regional North American Federation of Temple Youth-Mid Atlantic Region (NFTY-MAR) events. Thanks to the hard work of our Youth Engagement Coordinator, Barr Weiss-Simon, we had a minyan of 10 students attend NFTY-MAR's TheVent this year in Durham, NC! We hope to continue building on this work in the years to come, providing more opportunities for our students to engage with other Reform Jewish teens from the region. We also have a growing number of our youth who are choosing to attend URJ and NFTY summer programs including Camp Harlam, 6-Points Sports, 6-Points Creative Arts Academy, 6-Points Sci-Tech, Kutz Camp, and NFTY in Israel.



Our teens are living in unprecedented times and are learning, often on the fly, how to advocate for themselves and their beliefs. We love that NVHC gets to be an active participant in helping our teens to develop their voices as Jews and as young adults in Northern Virginia. In February, nine of our teens participated in the Religious Action Center's L'Taken Weekend, learning about a variety of social justice issues. Our teens chose to lobby Senators Warner and Kaine and Representatives Connolly and Wexton on issues of climate change, LGBTQ rights, and gun sense legislation. Not only that, but our teens are leading the way in community organizing on the local level. They are helping to build the first ever VOICE Teen Group in Virginia, in an effort to organize around issues that are important to our local high schools.

This is only a sliver of the ways in which our teens are potentially using their Judaism as a catalyst to engage with other youth in our area. I never cease to be amazed when our teens propose new programs to attend,

new ways to reach out to our teens who are not as well connected to NVHC, and new ways to continue promoting the importance of youth engagement at NVHC. My hope is that this is just the beginning of our youth engagement work, and that we are able to continue building on this momentum to help all of our teens find their place at NVHC.



NVHC Around the World

Robbie Kaplan

While we travel far and wide seeking to experience first-hand the many wonders of the world, it's quite common to explore Jewish institutions, history, and culture wherever we are. While visiting the Caribbean islands, it might seem odd to choose synagogues over white-sand beaches in Barbados, Aruba, Curacao, and Saint Thomas. However, when we make these visits, we learn about the Spanish and Portuguese Jews who were expelled from their homeland and sought freedom from persecution throughout the Caribbean. We then discover that these same Jews prospered and continued to migrate and establish synagogues throughout the new world, including notable ones in the United States. Congregation Shearith Israel in New York City, often called The Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, is the oldest Jewish congregation in the nation. We learn that the Touro Synagogue in Newport, Rhode Island, was completed in 1763 for the Jeshuat Israel congregation. This congregation dates back to 1658 when 15 Spanish and Portuguese Jewish families arrived, probably from the West Indies. Spanish and Portuguese Jews established Congregation Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the 1740s.



Ken Kaplan in Marais, the Jewish section of Paris, France.



Karen and Marvin Singer at a synagogue in Lisbon, Portugal.

Jewish history, practices, and migration help us understand our faith and our roots, often solidifying our personal practice of Judaism. We find connections to Judaism by visiting synagogues and Jewish museums everywhere we go, whether in Italy, Spain, Portugal, Eastern Europe, Asia, and other destinations throughout the world. Some of our travels are deliberate, searching for our roots, wanting to see where and how our ancestors lived and died. How did our families immigrate? What are our stories? The recent wave of DNA testing helps us better pinpoint our history and feeds our desire to discover more about our families and our past.

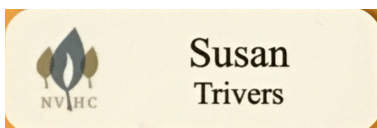
Our many congregational trips to Israel foster stronger communal bonds as we explore and understand together what it means to be a Jew. The following photos depict congregants as they discover the Jewish experience in Paris, Lisbon, and Israel.

How I Realized the Holiness of NVHC Name Tags

Susan Trivers

Twenty NVHC members sat on the *bimah*, circling Rabbi Holzman and studying *parasha T'tzaveh* (Exodus 27:20-30:10). We read of God's command to establish and maintain the eternal light under our own *ner tamid*, and we continued on to read about the ritual clothing God requires Aaron and his sons to manufacture and wear. Among the requirements are embroidery in crimson, blue and purple, and gold bells attached to the hems of the robes. These garments would be finely crafted with rich fabrics, threads, and metals, and serve as holy objects, not simply clothing. They identified people as members of the holy community.

Suddenly, while drawing closer to my fellow participants because of our study of Torah, I had a profound realization: Holy clothing and objects are not just artifacts of the age-old Torah. We, today, wear holy objects, such as *kippot* and *tallitot*. We wear black while mourning, and white on *Yom Kippur* to signify our intent to purify ourselves for the coming year. We build a marriage *chuppah* from a *tallit*, to re-create the holy tabernacle that was a physical manifestation for the ancient Israelites of the covenant with God. We cherish beautiful challah covers and special goblets for *kiddush*. Each item telegraphs a deeper spiritual meaning.



We are inviting all NVHC members to order a permanent name tag to wear whenever they visit the synagogue. Wearing name tags allows us to make more personal connections, helps avoid the embarrassment of forgetting a name, makes it easier to start conversations, reinforces our welcoming culture, and helps deepen connections. The name tags are magnetic, so there are no pins, clips, or strings to worry about. And, we'll store them in the building, so you don't have to worry about remembering them!

There is no charge to order a name tag; however, an \$18 per family donation is suggested to help defray the costs. Get one for yourself, or your entire family. Order today at <http://www.nvhcreston.org/name-tags>, or grab a paper form outside the front office.

Name tags are optional, but we really hope you will order one and wear it. After all, we all want to be in a place where everybody knows our name, and where we can strengthen our warm and welcoming community.

At NVHC, what is one of our most powerful sources of spiritual meaning? Community. Therefore—our new personal NVHC name tags are also holy objects! Wearing NVHC name tags will bring us together to further solidify the sacredness and holiness of our community. We should wear them as proudly as Aaron and his sons wore their special clothing. Each of us with a name tag will help bring others into the fold, and remind us of the holiness of our NVHC community.

Why do I call this a profound realization for myself? I've long held that being at NVHC for worship should feel like no other time or experience in my life. Worship and study on Friday and Saturday, and on the High Holy Days, should not feel like a business meeting or industry conference, those places where name badges are ubiquitous. So I resisted.

My realization that our new NVHC name tags are holy objects, which we wear for holy purposes, makes me eager to buy one and wear it proudly. I hope you will join the many NVHC members who are going to wear their name tags. It will be wonderful to greet each other warmly, knowing that together we are furthering the mission of NVHC to be our spiritual home, where we connect through community to Judaism that matters.

Happy Birthday

Sari Levine

It was the day before my 15th birthday, and my alarm clock was set for 6:00 a.m., a time earlier than usual. Yet, I was abruptly awoken by my dad at 5:47 a.m., yes, exactly at 5:47 a.m.-and he told me to meet him downstairs. At first, I imagined an early birthday surprise before I left on a trip with my mom. However, when I made it downstairs, I got just the opposite. My parents were sitting on the same red couch that has been in my living room for as long as I can remember. Except this time, as they sat in a place that was filled with good memories and comfort, they were forced to tell me that they woke me early because I was no longer going to visit my family, rather they were coming here. As I sat there, slowly sinking into the worn out crimson cushions, in a half-asleep, confused state of mind, my parents broke the most unimaginable news: my oldest brother had died. Their words hit me like a truck, so, as you can imagine, I was now wide awake. As I begged my parents to wake up my other brother so I wouldn't have to be alone, they told me, "We are going to let him sleep as late as he can, because once we tell him, his life is changed forever."

It is true. My life, my parents' lives, my brother's life, everyone's life was changed forever. Being known as "the girl with the dead brother" is one of the largest, most horrific problems I will have throughout my life, but, simultaneously, a problem with no solution. There is no way to completely heal from the loss of a sibling. There is no fix, no method to the madness, and no way to not feel the absence every single day. However, I have learned that other paths exist apart from an immediate solution. There are smaller steps I can take to make the hard days easier. I can do the little things that, although tedious at times, allow me to cherish the never-ending silly memories with my brother

rather than feel crushed by the fact that I will never be able to experience those blissful times again.

I always thought that there was some level of predictability to life . . . until the unpredictable happened. I would go to school, hang out with friends, go to dance class, and repeat. Everyone has their issues in life, but, overall, my life was simple and predictable. That is, until my brother died. Now the unknown holds my worst fears and my greatest desires, but I have come to understand that, no matter how hard I try, I can not control it. All I can do is roll with the punches, go with the flow, take it as it comes, and use every other cliché about life that is out there in order to let myself cope with the fact that I cannot control the bad, the sad, and the unwanted.

The greatest obstacle to overcome when going through the loss of someone is not the actual loss itself, but that there is no solution. It is human nature to try and try again to find acceptance, but no matter how hard someone tries to not feel the loss of a friend, a family member, a brother, it is impossible to achieve. But that is okay. It is okay to not know how to deal with a problem, it is okay to be scared and confused, and it is okay to embark on an unknown path.

Help Our Community with NVHC Change (our Social Action Committee)

NVHC's second annual *Tikkun Olam* campaign—our consolidated fundraiser for social action in the broader community—will run from Purim (March 21) through Pesach (April 20-26) this year. With your generosity, we hope to exceed our monetary goal - \$36,000 - and increase the number of families participating.

Tikkun Olam funds support Cornerstones, MAZON, VOICE, and HIAS. They also help pay for supplies for our weekend snack programs at Forest Edge and Clearview Elementary Schools, our shelter meals, and social action activities in the religious school. Some funds also support new initiatives, such as the booth we sponsored at the first-ever Reston Pride festival last June. NVHC may also join the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, an interfaith organization that works with over 70 Northern Virginia congregations to promote environmental stewardship. *Tikkun Olam* funds further support new projects and microgrants (see below).

Advocacy

NVHC members traveled to Richmond on January 25 with VOICE, and again on February 6 with the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) to discuss issues important to the Jewish community with Virginia lawmakers.

Service

This winter, we provided six dinners for guests at Cornerstones' Hypothermia Shelter, and on March 4 and June 3, we will cook for participants in Cornerstones' financial literacy class. On April 7, we will prepare and serve dinner for approximately

100 people at Cornerstones' Embry Rucker Shelter in observance of Good Deeds Day, a global effort supported by our local Jewish Federation. Interested in helping? Watch for links to sign up in the weekly NVHC eblast.



A religious school student packs meals for Shelter House

NVHC members continue to mentor students at Forest Edge and Clearview Elementary Schools. Clearview is also seeking volunteer help in the classroom. It's never too late to sign up for these activities.

Microgrants

Microgrants of \$25 to \$250 are available to NVHC applicants for social action projects. This year, we funded two projects, both now under way. The first, a teen baking project, includes partnering with youth at Cedar Ridge. The second promotes reductions in our carbon footprint at NVHC, at our homes, and at our businesses. A Green Team will soon be placing recycling containers throughout the synagogue.



VOICE at a Glance Sarah Paskow

On January 25, our NVHC VOICE team sent seven people, including three teenagers, to Richmond. The purpose of the trip was to educate our local and state representatives about the need for additional school counselors who will be able to spend more time counseling students. This team was led and organized by VOICE Core Team Member, Stuart Williger, who thought bringing the teens had an impact for all involved. "We weren't just another group of adult lobbyists," Williger said, when asked how the trip went. He continued, "We brought in [the teens] and that really made them listen." Overall, the trip seemed to be a positive and educational experience for everyone involved.

VOICE has declared 2019 to be the Year of Local Action. Local elections will take center stage with high levels of turnover expected on the Fairfax Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Public Schools Board of Education. All 100 seats in Virginia House of Delegates also will be up for re-election. Through our partnership with VOICE, NVHC has the opportunity to help shape the future of Fairfax County. Stay tuned for information about how you can help build power and affect change by taking action and participating in Get Out the Vote at the most local level.

Finally, we are excited to announce that NVHC has started a VOICE Teen Team that includes teens from NVHC and from across Fairfax and Loudoun Counties. This is a primarily teen-led initiative facilitated with support and guidance from lay leaders, NVHC Clergy, and VOICE organizing staff. We are looking for teens who want to exercise their collective power to affect change in their communities. Please email the NVHC VOICE Team at voiceteam@NVHCreston.org if you would like more information.

NVHC Goes Green! Ken Gubin

NVHC has established a Green Team to search out ways the synagogue and congregants can reduce their carbon footprint and promote a sustainable environment. The Green Team will examine the synagogue's practices, such as how we use energy, the products we use, the way we manage resources, and how we recycle. The Team will also recommend specific changes and solutions. You'll soon see our first initiative, colorful recycling bins, placed around the building to encourage more re-use of plastics, aluminum, and other items. We'll also offer practical tips on how you can promote a sustainable environment at home.

We hope to address the subject of one's carbon footprint and mankind's effects on the environment with young people in the religious school to help them understand the connection between lifestyle choices and their effects on the planet. Anyone interested in being part of the Team is welcome to join. We seek your suggestions on ways NVHC can promote environmentally friendly practices. Contact the GT Chair Ana Leirner at ana.leirner@gmail.com.



Green Tips

- The recycling process uses precious resources such as energy and water. Whenever possible, refuse new products and reuse what you already have.
- Use reusable bags instead of plastic ones while shopping.
- Recycle plastic bags (e.g., groceries bags, bread bags, Ziploc-style bags) at your local supermarket. Just ensure they're clean and dry.
- Turn off the car when picking someone up. The CO2 released contributes to air pollution and might cause asthma and other respiratory diseases.

Why Food Pack?

Nina Falci

On Sunday, January 20th, 20 people gathered in the NVHC Social Hall to fill gallon-size zip bags with food for 225 students at Forest Edge Elementary. These students rely on receiving free- or reduced-cost lunches at school during the week, and their families have difficulty providing nutritious food for them over the weekends. As a result, NVHC, along with other area nonprofits, pitch in to provide it.

Among the participants at the NVHC event were Alison Rosen, and her son Geoffrey, a 6th grader at Brambleton Middle School in Loudoun County. Each year since Geoffrey was in 1st grade, Alison has made a point of finding a community service project in which the two of them can participate over MLK weekend. Over the years, they have made blankets at the JCC, helped run bingo at a nursing home, and packed first aid supplies at Brambleton Presbyterian Church for hurricane victims.

They agreed to answer some questions about why they picked the NVHC packing event as this year's MLK service project.

Why is the Weekend Snack Bag program important?

Geoffrey: "It's important we help others who don't have enough food." Alison added, "We need to show empathy for others at all times, but especially now during the government shutdown for furloughed workers."

What would you say if you could talk with one of the students who received an NVHC food pack?

Geoffrey: "I hope it helps." He also said he would not want to have to tell a student he didn't have food for her. Alison made the point that kids

throughout Fairfax and Loudoun counties need this help. She told Geoffrey that even some students at his middle school, in affluent Loudoun County, receive help in order to get adequate food and nutrition.

She is correct. Throughout Fairfax and Loudoun county school systems almost 74,000 children (31% of FCPS and 18% of LCPS enrollees*) are classified as "economically disadvantaged" and may qualify for food assistance. Although these families deal with food challenges every day, the government shutdown also highlighted the challenges for others. Recently, the news has been filled with stories from many people in our area who are living paycheck to paycheck.

Twice a month, NVHC Change volunteers and Tamid students donate food and pack healthy snacks to send home with children at Forest Edge and Clearview Elementary Schools. If you are already a participant in the Weekend Snack Bag program, thank you for your involvement. If you have not yet joined the effort, please do so. Give as generously as you can by donating money directly to the initiative, and by donating and packing food. The remaining Sunday packing events for this school year are March 24, April 28, and May 19 from 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. in the NVHC Social Hall. Please do as Alison and Geoffrey Rosen have done: get involved and help others.

Questions about Weekend Snack Bag program? Check the NVHC website or contact Alison Behar.

*Virginia Department of Education School Quality Profiles, Fall 2018

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Alison Behar at ForestEdgeBackpackProgram@nvhcreston.org.

Sisterhood – Talking the Talk and Walking the Walk

Fay Gubin

I am proud to say that Sisterhood members talk the talk and walk the walk when it comes to fulfilling its purpose of supporting and furthering the goals of NVHC. We promote camaraderie, a feeling of pride, fellowship, and a common loyalty, spirituality, and participation in *tikkun olam* within our Congregation and the greater community.

In our weekly email announcements to all Sisterhood members, along with our upcoming programs and events, we've begun including three new sections that help deepen our connections with each other. We now include Celebrate our Sisterhood Members' Birthdays, Welcoming New Sisterhood Members, and In Support and Celebration of our Sisterhood Members. By simply clicking on the individual names listed in each of these sections, one can easily send an email offering birthday greetings, welcome messages, and notes of encouragement, caring, and good wishes.

How else does Sisterhood support its purpose?

1. We offer an afternoon of Jewish Meditation and hold an annual Women's Passover Seder, which helps to fulfill the spiritual needs in our lives.
2. Our *tikkun olam* projects include our annual Winter Coat Drive, when we collect gently used coats for Cornerstones. Sisterhood members spent many hours making fleece blankets for Project Linus, an organization for hospitalized children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. This year, thanks to Sisterhood volunteers and religious school students, 47 blankets were donated to Sentara Hospital in Springfield, VA.
3. Thanks to the generosity of Potomac Vegetable Farm and Hana Newcomb, Sisterhood organized a

donation of 25 pumpkins to be sent to the Early Head Start Program in Sterling. We also collect and take women's clothing to Women Giving Back, an organization that helps women and children in crisis by distributing clothing at no cost.

4. We provide a service to our community by holding our annual Chanukah and Passover Boutiques, and our annual Rummage Sale. Not only are these events fundraisers for Sisterhood, but they also benefit the greater community.

5. In addition, Sisterhood supports the NVHC community financially through generous annual contributions for summer camp scholarships; Preschool programming; the *Rosh Hashanah oneg*; *B'nai Mitzvah*, Confirmation, conversion, and baby gifts; and the NVHC music program. The total this year alone for these donations will be approximately \$8,600.

This year, Sisterhood is helping to further NVHC's goals of community engagement by planning a Dueling Pianos Show on Saturday evening, April 27 for the entire congregation. Watch the NVHC and Sisterhood weekly emails for more details and how to purchase tickets. We hope to see a large crowd for an evening of fun, food, drinks, singing, and maybe even a little dancing.

It is through all these efforts that Sisterhood continues to help strengthen our community. Visit us on the web at:

www.nvhcreston.org/connect/social-groups/sisterhood to see additional programs and events and how you can join Sisterhood.

Yours in Sisterhood,
Fay Gubin
NVHC Sisterhood President

Chavurah Corner

Miriam Brodie

Growing up, my parents' closest friends were friends from the synagogue. These were the people they went on dinner dates with, whose kids came over to play, who helped us celebrate many Jewish holidays, who lit candles at *b'nai mitzvah*, and who even signed my *ketubah*. Witnessing that friendship is something I always strived to recreate throughout my life. So, when I found out that NVHC offered *chavurot*, I knew this was my chance to recreate the special memories I had as a kid for my own children.



We didn't really know each other, though we were always friendly at Temple. Trying to figure out how to blend 20 people into engaging activities was a challenge at first. But, it was a challenge worth figuring out. In a few short months we've gone from strangers to weekly text chats. We've gone out to eat, shared Seders, bowled, taken exercise classes, made cookies, and had ladies' nights out. We have something official planned for at least once per month. But activities are starting to just naturally happen.

Our *chavurah* started off as five families, but we quickly grew to six after a new family joined us to break the fast. It was just a natural fit. Our numbers equal joyful chaos, and we've grown from a group looking to make friends to a family that we choose.

We give a warm welcome to new members:

Sheila Bialek
Marshal Neal Fetro
Connie Nystrom
Michael and Laura Williams, and children Charlie, Oliver, and Miles

Mazel tov...

... to Judy Ornoff on the birth of her granddaughter, Billie Alanna Keiler, to proud parents Andy and Marina Keiler, on September 24, 2018

... to Julia and Jason Tungli, and big brother Elijah, on the birth of Gideon Tungli on February 6, 2019

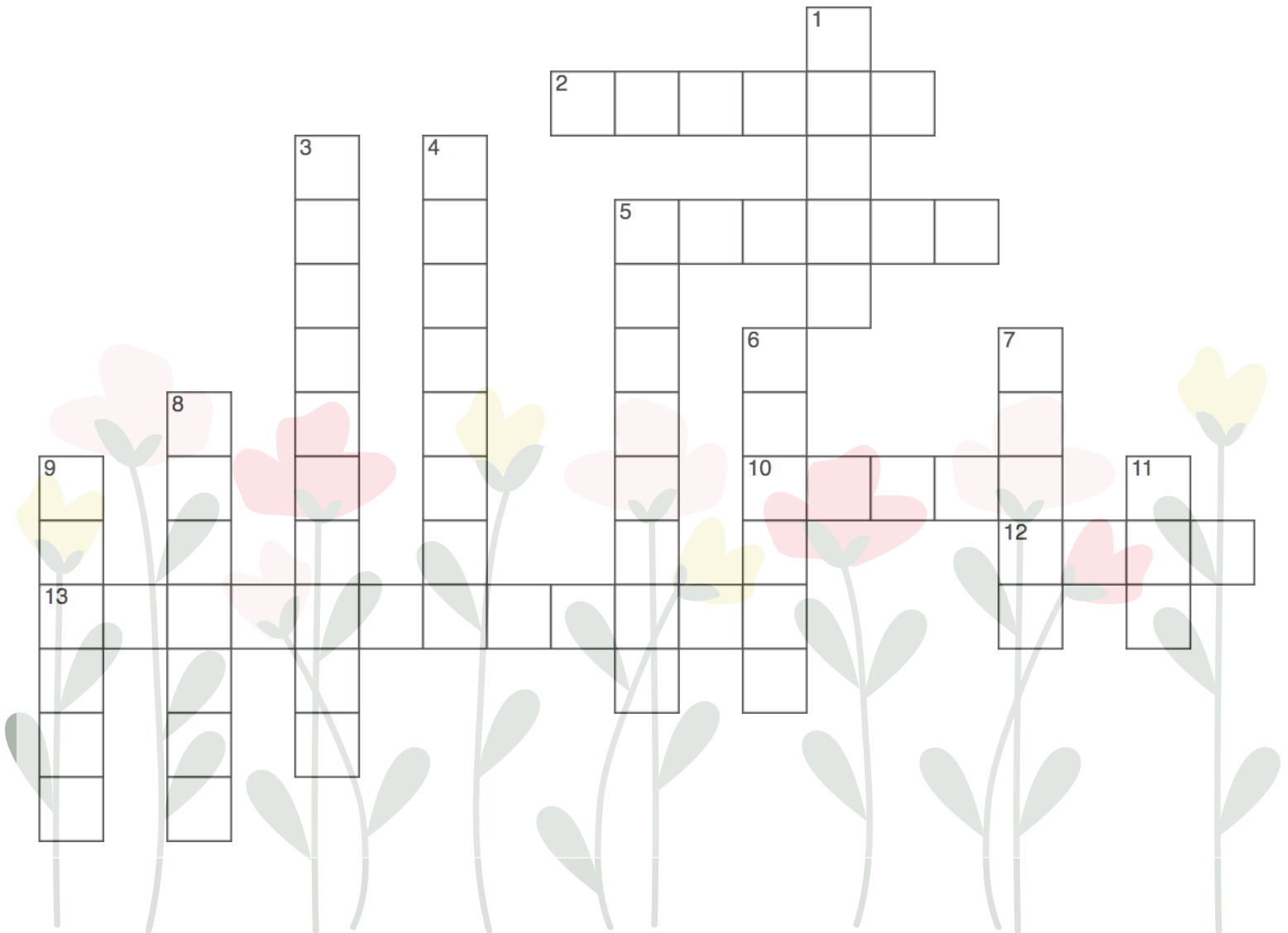
Mazel tov to B'nai Mitzvah students and their families!

B'nai Mitzvah are community life cycle events, and we encourage everyone to attend to support and celebrate with the *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* and their family.

Seanna Fishman March 23, 2019
Lily Garza April 6, 2019
Nick Shapiro April 13, 2019
Meredith Hutner April 27, 2019
Mason Szczesniak April 27, 2019
Jordan Henry May 4, 2019
Nicole Kogan May 4, 2019

Benjamin Gordon May 11, 2019
Talia Krasner June 1, 2019
Isaac Krasner June 1, 2019
Peyton Luman June 15, 2019
Teddy Peristere June 15, 2019
Madeline de Clerck June 22, 2019
Daniella Wilcock June 29, 2019

From Purim to Shavuot



Across

2. Torah book in which the story of Passover takes place
5. The person who dances on the shore of the Red Sea
10. Order. Also Passover observance (Hebrew)
12. Period between Passover and Shavuot
13. Israeli Independence Day (Hebrew)

Down

1. Lots cast by Haman
3. Food traditionally eaten on Shavuot
4. A category of foods sometimes not eaten during Passover (Hebrew)
5. Scroll of the Book of Esther (Hebrew)
6. Ahasuerus' first wife
7. Bitter herbs on the Passover plate (Hebrew)
8. Leavened items (Hebrew)
9. "It would have been enough" (Hebrew)
11. Number of Commandments

Tzedakah: We thank our generous contributors

Adam Levine Camp Scholarship Fund

Bruce Friedman and Michaela Madsen
Bruce and Laurie Levine...in memory of Adam Levine
Sam and Sheila Levine...in memory of Adam Levine
Bonnie Millender...in memory of Adam Levine
Mitch and Abbe Pascal...in memory of Martin Schwartz,
in honor of
Laurie Levine's birthday
Courtney Rees...in memory of Adam Levine
Jon and Deborah Rochkind...in memory of Rita Rochkind

Ark Fund

Tom and Cindi Drake...in memory of Stuart Smith
Ted Smith...in appreciation of donations made in
memory of Stuart Smith

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

David and Ellen Brewer...in memory of Sol Brewer
Neil and Robin Cohen...in memory of Harold Cohen
Ben Galison and Sabrina Hollender...in memory of
Morton Galison
Ken Kaplan and Jean Gold...in honor of Cantor Caro
Chuck and Sandy Mitchell
Marvin and Karen Singer...in appreciation of Cantor
Caro's *Mussar* class

Choir & Music Fund

Don Copley...in memory of Marion Copley
Steve and Linda Gordon...in memory of Stuart Smith
Justin and Andrea Hayes...in memory of Denise
Steinberger
Don and Nell Hirsch...in memory of Elaine Hochheiser
George and Marjina Kaplan...in memory of Frances
Ensign
Nancy, Ruth & Helen Kruger...in memory of Stuart Smith,
Elaine Hocheiser
Rich and Cindy Michelson...in memory of Elaine
Hochheiser
Howard and Heidi Mitnick...in memory of Elaine
Hochheiser
Judy Naiman...in memory of Stuart Smith
Gregg and Anna Schoenfeld...in memory of Stanley
Schoenfeld
Ted Smith...in appreciation of donations made in
memory of Stuart Smith

College Outreach

Steve and Linda Gordon...in memory of Margot
Lieberman, Rose Goldner, Elmer Goldner

Ellen Reich Early Childhood Teacher Education Fund

Norman Reich...in memory of Ellen Reich, Nathan Reich,
Richard Gladstone, Dorothy Reich

Library Fund

George and Marjina Kaplan...in memory of John Eric and
Bess Eisenstadt
Audrey Gassman
Ken Kaplan and Jean Gold...in memory of Stuart Smith
Michael and Candy Kleinrock...in memory of Stuart
Smith
Daniel and Marcy Opstal...in memory of Selma
Goldstone
Leslie and Marcia Platt...in memory of Benjamin
Berman, Stuart Smith
Ted Smith...in appreciation of donations made in
memory of Stuart Smith

Louis Gold Children's Music Fund

Rabbi Rosalind Gold...in memory of Beatrice Gold,
Jennie Frankel
Marvin and Karen Singer...in honor of Rabbi Rosalind
Gold's wonderful instruction for her class on Written law
to Oral Law

Memorial Plaque

Michael and Suzanne Goldstein...in memory of JoAnn
Auerbach
Marc and Jennifer Lieberman...in memory of Linda
Lieberman

NVHC Cares (Caring Committee)

Carl and Erin DiManno...in memory of Ruth Saunders
Booth
Jeff and Tracy Dlott...in memory of Robert Mothner
Adele Denny...in memory of Adam Schwartz
Ted Smith...in appreciation of donations made in
memory of Stuart Smith
Doris Weisman...in memory of Burton Weisman

NVHC Fund

Jeff and Becky Amster...in honor of Aurora's baby naming
Anonymous
Ben Galison and Sabrina Hollender
Stu and Andrea Gavurin
Don and Nell Hirsch...in honor of the clergy and for the Solidarity Shabbat
Peggy Nelson...for the continued success of NVHC
Karen Noel...in appreciation of NVHC
Robert and Ellen Rugel...in memory of Stuart Smith
Marco Sainati and Ronnie Levine...in honor of our amazing clergy
Sam and Bonnie Shor
Andrew, Allison and Caleb Snowwhite...in honor of the clergy, staff and teachers
Bob and Phyllis Stein...in memory of Stuart Smith
Jennifer Sylman
Mark and Nancy Weinstein...in memory of Ann Weinstein
Barbara Wozney...in memory of Richard Gladstone

Preschool Fund

Jerry and Ellen Ezrol...in memory of Bernard Ezrol
Michael and Eleanor Kitces...in honor of Cindi Drake for Chanukah



NVHC was honored to host the First Responder's Luncheon for local police officers, firemen, EMS teams, and other first responders.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund – Rabbi Gold

Ken Kaplan and Jean Gold...in honor of Rabbi Rosalind Gold
Ron and Debbie Langsam...in memory of Carol Langsam, Martin Langsam, Robert Moss

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund – Rabbi Holzman

Stephen and Sharron Cristofar...in memory of Ellen Moyer
Jeff and Tracy Dlott...in memory of Elaine Mothner
Boris and Betty Donskoy
Ben Galison and Sabrina Hollender...in memory of Morton Galison
Bernard and Linda Holzman
Nancy, Ruth & Helen Kruger...with gratitude to Rabbi Holzman
Jarett and Dara Levan
Chuck and Barbara Leven...in memory of Ida L. Leven, Alice Lembersky
Robin Miller...in memory of Dennis Goldstein, Helen Joffe, Roy I. Joffe
Chuck and Sandy Mitchell
Rivoltina Popova...in memory of David Kurland, Alexander Popov
Robert Reznikoff...in memory of Morris Reznikoff
Ruth Ruttenberg
Oliver and Joyce Schueftan...in memory of Rose Schueftan, Henry Schueftan
Marvin and Karen Singer
Rick and Barbara Schatz...for Friends of VOICE
David Selden and Julie Wallick
Michael and Barbara Smith
Larry and Deede Snowwhite...in memory of William Snowwhite
Susan Trivers...VOICE, Santa Fe Synagogue
Fredda Weinberg-Pribish...in memory of Morris Sussman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund – Rabbi Wainer

Constance Nystrom...in honor of Rabbi Wainer's sponsorship Diane Preece...in memory of Jennifer Susan Moore, Nigel A. Preece

Religious School Fund

Dan and Beth Dakin
Elise de Clerck...in memory of Ronni Pendel
Bruce Friedman and Michaela Madsen

Selden Dixon Endowment Fund for Jewish Youth

David and Laurie Albert...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Dwayne Archer...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Andrea Baier and Christopher Zehren
 Gary and Carol Berman...in memory of Tamara Selden
 David and Ellen Brewer...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Scott Brown...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Jerry Croan...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Marita Fernald...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Courtney Foster...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Bob and Jackie Gladstone...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Timothy Herbst...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Lisa Miller...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Scott Rechler...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Jeff and Mary Ann Ressin...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Robert and Ellen Rugel...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Glenn Ruskin...in memory of Sam Selden and Donna
 Dixon
 Suzi Stone...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Alex Ukoh...for EIC scholarships
 Howard and Carolyn Wesoky...in memory of Tamara
 Selden
 Elmarie Wohl...in memory of Tamara Selden
 Ralph and Miriam Wolman...in memory of Tamara Selden

Seldon and Ruth Kruger Fund for Adult Learning

Ira and Jane Dreyfuss...in memory of Lucille Mohr
 Ed and Sandee Byrne...in memory of Jeffrey Edinberg
 Jeff and Tracy Dlott...in memory of Joseph Spiegel
 Nancy, Ruth & Helen Kruger...in honor of Andy Cohen
 Ruth Ruttenberg...in memory of Beatrice Wechsler
 Seymour and Linda Samuels...in memory of Leon Berg
 Rick and Barbara Schatz...in memory of Jeffrey Edinberg
 Henry and Irene Schiffman...in memory of Nora
 Rosenfeld
 Marvin and Karen Singer...in memory of Nat Singer
 Doris Weisman...in memory of Burton Weisman
 Howard and Carolyn Wesoky...in memory of Bernard
 Lewis, Evelyn Wesoky Lewis,
 Sidney S. Scheibel

Tikkun Olam (Social Action)

Ken Kaplan and Jean Gold...in memory of Milton Sack
 Roy and Jean Horowitz...in memory of Anna Newman
 Nancy, Ruth & Helen Kruger...in memory of Ellen Moyer
 Judy Ratliff...in memory of Joseph Nissman, Sandra
 Nissman
 John Roberts and Mimi Kramer-Roberts...in memory of
 Sylvia Kramer

Tikkun Olam (Social Action) (cont'd)

David McCue and Lori Lefcourt...in memory of Laurence
 Lefcourt
 Richard and Jessica Peristere...in memory of Judith Skier
 Brown
 David and Betty Ann Rubin...for the Hypothermia Shelter
 Marsha Sheinman...in memory of Jerry Pollock
 Gregg and Anna Schoenfeld...in memory of Stanley
 Schoenfeld
 Ted Smith...in appreciation of donations made in memory
 of Stuart Smith
 Mark and Nancy Weinstein...for the Hypothermia Shelter
 Doris Weisman...in memory of Burton Weisman

Forest Edge Backpack Program (Social Action)

Marc and Rinna Cortes...in memory of Cristobal Cortes
 Bruce Friedman and Michaela Madsen
 Marsha Sheinman...in memory of Sondra Brown-Blake,
 Ira Brown

Speaker Series

David and Ellen Brewer
 Robert and Sally Brodsky
 Eric and Karen Forman...in memory of Leon Forman,
 Murray Blume
 Barbara Gems and Robert Hitlin
 Carol Isaacs
 Judy Ratliff...in memory of Louis Fine
 Andrew & Barbara Rudin...in memory of Jerry
 Rosenzweig
 Marvin and Karen Singer...in memory of Miriam Singer
 Larry and Deede Snowwhite
 Andrew and Ellice Stern...in memory of Merwin
 Rosenberg
 Suzi Stone
 Jim and Barbara Tombros...in memory of Nick Tombros,
 Nora Tombros
 Mark and Nancy Weinstein...in memory of Melvin
 Edinberg

Torah Fund

Jason and Vera Feig...in memory of Stanley Feig
 Jeff and Mary Ann Ressin
 Ted Smith...in appreciation of donations made in
 memory of Stuart Smith

Worship Fund

Don Copley...in memory of Michael Rubin

KICK IT UP AN OCTAVE!

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27

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NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HEBREW CONGREGATION

1441 Wiehle Ave | Reston, VA | 20190

Upcoming Events

March

- 22: Sermon in Song: *Kol Shirah* Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- 23: Adult Purim Comedy Night, 7:00 p.m.
- 24: Kehilat Limmud Purim Carnival, 9:30 a.m.

April

- 3: Distinguished Speaker Series: Jeffrey Bennett, 8:00 p.m.
- 20: Second Night Seder Community Dinner, TBA
- 26: Festival of *Chametz* Finally Friday *Erev Shabbat* Service, 6:00 p.m.
- 27: Dueling Pianos, 7:30 p.m.
- 30: Distinguished Speaker Series: Tilar Mazzeo, 8:00 p.m.

May

- 5: Navigating Interfaith Family Life Panel and Potluck Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
- 10 & 11: *Shabbat Kavod* 7:00 p.m. Friday, 9:00 a.m. Saturday
- 16: Distinguished Speaker Series: Sandy Grimes, 7:00 p.m.
- 18: *Shabbat Bachutz* (outdoors), 9:00 a.m.
- 24: *Lag B'Omer* at Lake Fairfax Park *Erev Shabbat* Service, 7:00 p.m.
- 31: *Atid* *Shabbat* Finally Friday *Erev Shabbat* Service, 6:00 p.m.

June

- 8: Confirmation Service, 4:00 p.m.