

STAFF NEWS

## CSH Hires Its First Business Manager

Anna Hathaway joined the Congregation Shirat Hayam staff on June 4<sup>th</sup> as its first Business Manager. The Middleton CPA, PFS and MST has 18 years of career experience that includes: Controller/CFO of Quadrant Health Strategies, Inc.; Business Manager at Epstein-Hillel Academy, and Controller of the Jewish Federation of the North Shore (from 2001-2006).

She couldn't be more pleased with her new position at CSH. "I wanted to find a place where I

Dennis Friedman of The Chesapeake Group. The group's charge is to develop and implement a new Strategic Plan, Vision and Mission for CSH.

That Mission includes "embracing our responsibility to invest in strengthening our Jewish community for generations to come."

As a business consultant with 28 years' experience specializing in strategic planning and organizational development, Friedman concurred with the rest of the group that CSH

had strong leadership in the religious and educational spheres and needed that same level of leadership in the physical and fiscal infrastructure sphere if CSH was to fulfill its mission "for generations to come."

The group decided that a successful candidate for the CSH Business Manager position would be someone with strong financial expertise and management skills who would also work collegially with staff.

Larry Groipen, a member of the Strategic Planning Group, knew Hathaway was just the sort of person they had in mind.

"Anna is a CPA, she has a lot of building knowledge, she understands enough about roofing, plumbing, landscaping, HVAC and building safety and security to make good decisions," he said. "She genuinely wants to help CSH work towards improving our facility, operations and above all the welcoming experience we at CSH are so proud of."

Rabbi Michael Ragozin was "wowed" by Hathaway during the interview process and by how quickly she understood the CSH team and the challenges it faces after meeting with key staff one-on-one. "Anna is thoughtful, decisive and sensitive," he said. "She brings the financial skill set necessary to advance our vision."



could work for the greater good, using my talents to help an organization accomplish its mission. After meeting the staff at CSH, I was interested in joining the team and working with them to accomplish theirs," she said.

Born and raised in Lynn, Hathaway spent many summer days at Kings Beach. She and her husband Dave are parents to an adult son, DJ. She holds a Masters of Science in Taxation from Bentley College and a B.S. in Business Administration from Salem State University.

The need for a Business Manager surfaced as part of a three-year process undertaken by the CSH Strategic Planning Group and facilitated by

### September Calendar

- SATURDAY, SEPT. 1**  
**Shabbat Synaplex™**  
 8:00 pm Holy Happy Hour S'lichot

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- FRIDAY, SEPT. 7**  
 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

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- SATURDAY, SEPT. 8**  
**Shabbat Synaplex™**

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- SUNDAY, SEPT. 9**  
 7:30 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah

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- MONDAY, SEPT. 10**  
**Rosh Hashanah Day 1**

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- TUESDAY, SEPT. 11**  
**Rosh Hashanah Day 2**

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- FRIDAY, SEPT. 14**  
 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

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- SATURDAY, SEPT. 15**  
**Shabbat Synaplex™** Shabbat Shuvah

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- MONDAY, SEPT. 17**  
 7:30 pm Becky's Book Club:  
*The Woman in the Window*

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- TUESDAY, SEPT. 18**  
 6:30 pm Kol Nidre Service

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- WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19**  
**Yom Kippur & Break the Fast**

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- FRIDAY, SEPT. 21**  
 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

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- SATURDAY, SEPT. 22**  
**Shabbat Synaplex™**  
 CJE Limmud Shabbat

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- SUNDAY, SEPT. 23**  
 11:00 am Farm Day  
 6:00 pm Erev Sukkot at CSH

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- MONDAY, SEPT. 24**  
 9:00 am Sukkot Service at CSH

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- TUESDAY, SEPT. 25**  
 5:30 pm CJE/CSH Sukkot dinner

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- THURSDAY, SEPT. 27**  
 7:30 pm Rosh Hodesh Group

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- FRIDAY, SEPT. 28**  
 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

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- SATURDAY, SEPT. 29**  
**Shabbat Synaplex™**  
 Bat Mitzvah of Eliana Levine

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- SUNDAY, SEPT. 30**  
 9:00 am Sukkah Cycle at  
 Dandee Donuts, Marblehead  
 5:30 pm Simchat Torah Celebration

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- MONDAY, OCTOBER 1**  
 7:30 am Shemini Atzeret at CSH  
 9:00 am Yizkor

# Shabbat Synaplex™

Hours and Info  
through September 30th

Join us at any time to  
recharge and reconnect

**9:00 am**

Renewal Service, Traditional Minyan  
and Boker Tov Café

**10:00 am**

Nosh & Drash (Torah discussion),  
Traditional Torah Service and  
Yoga Minyan

**11:10 am**

Healing Service followed by  
Rabbi's Talk

**11:45 am**

Ruach Rally with the  
Ruach Rally Band

**12:00 pm**

Shabbat Café for all

**Babysitting available,  
9:00 - 11:45 am**

## Friday Candle Lighting Times

September 7, 2018 - 6:49 pm  
September 14, 2018 - 6:37 pm  
September 21, 2018 - 6:25 pm  
September 28, 2018 - 6:12 pm

## CSH Staff Contacts

**Phone:** 781.599.8005

**Rabbi Michael Ragozin**, x14,  
rabbiragozin@shirathayam.org

**Cantor Alty Weinreb**, x12,  
cantoralty@shirathayam.org

**Janis Knight**, x25  
Director of CJE,  
janis@shirathayam.org

**Andrea Bernard**  
Director of CEE, 781-598-3311  
andrea@shirathayam.org

**Anna Hathaway**, x41  
Business Manager,  
anna@shirathayam.org

**Barri Stein**, x11  
Director of Events & Facility,  
barri@shirathayam.org

**Richard Kelleher**, x22  
Financial Manager,  
richard@shirathayam.org

**Marylou Barry**, x10  
Office Manager,  
marylou@shirathayam.org

## NEW WAVE

**Shelley A. Sackett**  
Editor-in-Chief

**Nancy Marland Wolinski**  
Designer

## Life of the Congregation

### RABBI'S CORNER

## The Joy of Discovery



As I get older, I am realizing even greater joy when I discover new wisdom, new practices and new interests. I am hardly unique in this. In the 1<sup>st</sup>-century CE, Rabbi Elazar ben Azaryah says (M. Berakhot 1:5):

“Behold! I am almost a seventy-year-old man and I had not succeeded in understanding why the Exodus from Egypt should be mentioned at night, until Ben Zoma explained it.”

I sense Rabbi Elazar's enthusiasm at finding an explanation for his spiritual practice, even after seventy years, and hope that during the upcoming High Holidays, you too will experience that same kind of excitement.

Like Rabbi Elazar, many of us have a lifetime of experiencing the High Holy Days. What new element can we experience this year that brings a newfound excitement to our High Holy Day practice?

The jewel of the High Holy Day experience is Musaf, which runs from approximately 11:30 to 1:30pm. The splendor and inspiration of this service is achieved through the sublime liturgical hymns made accessible and inspiring through music.

Along with Kol Nidre, Musaf is the service that transforms us. It's a full-sensory experience with

the musical ensemble enlivening the rich selection of prayers and hymns that uniquely express the themes of the High Holy Days.

In recent years, a growing number of people have stayed for Musaf, and have shared with me how inspiring an experience it was for them and their family. If you don't usually remain for this service, I encourage you to plan your holiday attendance and family gatherings around it. You won't regret it.

Continuing the tradition of Shirat Hayam, Cantor Alty has hired an ensemble of world-class musicians on piano, guitar, cello and percussion. The music, melody, and tone bring to life the awe, majesty, self-reflection, joy and mercy of our prayers on this special day.

Max Artz describes the High Holy Days as “momentous day[s] dedicated to the contemplation of the most sublime purposes of human life and to an honest self-appraisal.” For many, including myself, nothing evokes these noble aims more than the Musaf experience. I hope you'll plan to join us this year on our spiritual journey and discover for yourself the same wonder 70-year-old Rabbi Elazar felt when he exclaimed, “Behold!”

L'shana tova!

Rabbi Michael

## CENTER FOR JEWISH EDUCATION Pre-School Summer Fun!



## CANTOR'S NEWS

### Shirat Selah!



Selah is a magical Hebrew word used seventy-four times in the Tanach, mostly in the Psalms. But Jews throughout the millennia have argued about its meaning.

The Talmud says it means forever. The Radak (12th Century France) says it's a musical notation for the singers to raise their voices. Ibn Ezra (12th Century Spain) says it means true and certain. But my favorite explanation is by Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch (19th Century Germany) who says it's poetic and adds extra emphasis, like someone yelling, "Yahoo!" with joyous emotion.

As we prepare for the New Year, for what will you say, "Selah!"? Here's my version:

Selah for bubbie & zaide.  
Selah for Tom Brady.

Selah for the Rabbinical arguments over the definition of the word Selah.

Selah for the howl of a mourner's Kaddish, making me feel more alive by being conscious of my future demise.

Selah for mozzarella.  
Sela for sunshine and the days I need an umbrella.

Selah for the groove.  
Getting lost in song, Selah!  
Selah when *you* sing along.  
Selah for pounding sushi and avoiding salmonella

Selah for the High Holidays and its brew of joy and solemnity, feasting and fasting, prayer and inspiration.

Selah for the Shofar blasting from the kishkes, reminding me where I come from and to be a better man.

Selah for Stanley Kowalski's screams of Stella!  
Selah for the ancient Levites rockin' the Temple prayer services with their musical instruments.

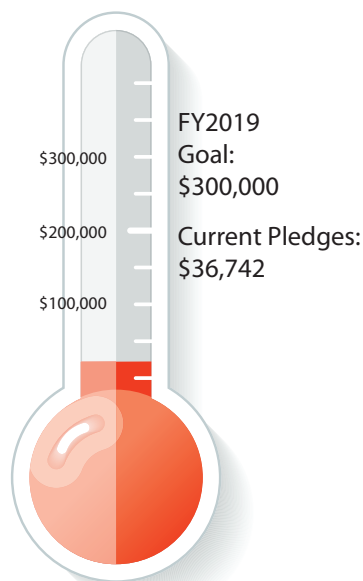
Selah for Queen Isabella showing us the door once more and toughening our hide.  
When our Shul sings a cappella, Selah!

Selah for Biblical Sarah who laughed when told she would conceive at age 90.  
Selah for the warm glow of Shirat Hayam's candela lighting the night.

So stand on the mountaintop, clear your throat and shout, "Selah! Rosh Hashanah is ours to experience and enjoy!"

Happy 5779  
Selah!

Cantor Alty



### CSH VISION STATEMENT

**CSH offers multiple pathways to Jewish life, learning and prayer. We will deliver the most fulfilling spiritual experience and the best childhood and teen education on the North Shore.**

**Every encounter with our congregation leaves you feeling welcomed, connected and enriched.**

**We embrace our responsibility to invest in strengthening our Jewish community for generations to come.**



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Holy Happy Hour Minyan

The chapel overflowed with neshama (*spirit and soul*) and music at the Holy Happy Hour Minyan on Friday, July 17. Congregants gathered in the lobby at 5:30 pm for drinks, snacks and chats before the Kabbalat Shabbat service. The next Holy Happy Hour Minyan is October 12. Be sure to put it on your calendar!



Top photo, from left: Cantor Alty, Lautaro Mantilla, Rabbi Michael and Ann Segal led an uplifting Kabbalat Shabbat service.

CONGREGATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Meet Frances Mendelsohn and Alvah Parker

For many regular CSH Shabbat traditional service attendees, seeing 104-year-old Frances Mendelsohn arrive at services every week with her aide and sometimes with her daughter Alvah, too is a source of joy and inspiration. The two graciously invited The New Wave into their Swampscott home recently to chat.

Tell us a little about your youth.

Frances: I was born on January 3, 1914 in Pittsfield. My parents came from Riga, Latvia and met in Lowell. I had five sisters and I remember we had a black car. The seats were put in the back, so we all had enough room to sit facing forward.

Alvah: Mom told me that there was no horn in the car, so the whole family would all make loud honking sounds!

How did you end up in Swampscott?

Alvah: Mom sang in the choir in Pittsfield as a young girl, which is how she met my dad, Lewis Mendelsohn, who was from Montreal. He worked for General Electric and went to Friday night services. He saw my mother singing in the choir, and asked to be introduced to her. She was 22- or 23-years-old, and they married when she turned 24.

My dad's work took them from Pittsfield to Springfield, Illinois to Lynn and then Swampscott, where they joined Temple Beth El.

You have been attending Shabbat morning services every week (also in Florida from October to May) for the last ten years. What does CSH mean to you?

Frances: It means a lot to me. My favorite part of the service is the sermon. I like the rabbi and the way he speaks.

Alvah: One of the reasons she goes is for the social connection. Even though she doesn't hear well, people recognize her. It makes her feel good. It makes her feel wanted. It's pretty isolating being old. She has me, her aide and sometimes the neighbors come out and talk when she's on her walk, but that's it.

People at temple tell me what an inspiration she is for them. When she walks in, they must be thinking, "Here's somebody who's lived all those years and still enjoys life and is happy and comes to temple."



Frances poses in a leopard skin coat in front of her black late 1920's Dodge.



Alvah Parker and her mother, Frances Mendelsohn, at Alvah's Swampscott home.

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