



# 5 steps for Preparing your home for Pesach

Join us for our 14th. Annual

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Pesach Night  
Community Passover Seder

This Saturday, April 20 2019

Congregation Ahavas Sholom 8:30PM

**P**reparing your home for Pesach is like a Jewish version of spring cleaning; but, a spring cleaning on steroids. It's driven by a series of specific religious and traditional beliefs that have guided and sustained the Jewish people for thousands of years. However, Pesach, the holiday that commemorates the Hebrew's Exodus from Egyptian bondage and the crossing of the Sea of Reeds, is quite possibly the most labor intensive of all the Jewish holidays. Getting ready for Pesach takes a lot of planning and preparation and the to-do list can become daunting, quickly. With so much on your already crowded plate, it can sometimes seem overwhelming; but, like most

large

projects, it becomes easier to digest once you break it into bite sized pieces.

Here is a short punch-list of the five things you need to do in getting your home ready for Pesach.

1. ***Cleaning the house*** - In this case we're talking deep, deep cleaning to insure all chametz is removed from the premises. That includes cleaning all the rooms, checking between chair cushions, inspecting closets, emptying and examining cupboards and drawers. Checking in, and around the bed, giving your sofa the once over; and even scrutinizing those suspect cracks on the floor. Don't forget to check your picnic basket from last year, or your child's old lunch box.

2. ***Eliminating chametz in the home*** - checking for bread crumbs in the home is one thing; however, throughout the year, many of us have made a substantial investment in, and built an ample stock of, chametz; so simply throwing or giving it away might not be your best course of action. A much better option may be to sell your chametz to a non-Jew for the duration of the festival. Rabbi Simon Rosenbach of Congregation Ahavas Sholom has provided an outline and contract for selling your chametz that can be found at the end of this article.

3. ***Working in the kitchen*** – the kitchen is where we prepare our meals throughout the year. It's also the most likely place to find chametz lurking in the shadows, corners, and cracks than any other place in the home. We must pay special attention and exert our best efforts in cleaning this area properly. The cupboards should be emptied, inspected, cleaned, and lined with cardboard or aluminum foil. The sink must be scrubbed vigorously (and rinsed with boiling water three times,) the oven and stove should be cleaned thoroughly. The grates should be heated thoroughly and a small brush should be used to clean in all the crevasses, open spaces and joints. The oven should be turned onto its highest temperature for one to two hours. In the case of a self-cleaning oven, run it through a complete cycle. When cleaning is completed cover the stovetop with aluminum foil. Microwave ovens must

**Art Exhibit  
Opening  
Reception  
Monday,  
March 11  
6:30-8pm**

*Celebrate Women's  
History Month!*

**Featuring local artists:  
Daphnie Manzione  
Sharon Curia  
Joanne Leone  
Violet La Vey  
Paula Borenstein**

*Drop by to meet  
the artists and  
enjoy free  
refreshments.*



**Elizabeth  
Arts  
Council**

**Elizabeth Public Library**  
3rd Floor Exhibit Space  
11 S. Broad St, Elizabeth, NJ  
elizpl.org  
(908) 354-6060  
Free & secure parking available



also be koshered. Fill a clean, microwave safe vessel (that has not been used for 24 hours) with water. Place it in the microwave turn it on until the microwave fills with steam. Turn it off and wipe the inside of the microwave oven. The dining room is usually an extension of the kitchen. Kosher the dining room table by pouring boiling water over it (though I would not suggest doing that to a wooden table) and scrubbing it with a brush, making sure you brush everything out of its cracks and corners. When finished, cover the table with a cloth, and keep it covered for the duration of the festival. Even the floors and windows should get a good scrubbing down.

4. ***Going to the store*** – It's time to go shopping, you've gotten all of the chametz out of your home, now it's time to purchase the items you can eat. There is Kosher and then, there is Kosher for Pesach. Check your local kosher market (and an increasing number of regular super markets) for items labeled, Kosher for Passover. There are cakes, cookies, crackers, and cereals made specifically for this time of year. You might even want to purchase some extra fruit and vegetables to help you deal with the inevitable cravings that come with giving up bread products, cold turkey.

5. ***A Change of dishware*** – many people have, or purchase, special plate sets, silverware, glasses, and pottery that are only used at this time of year. Every day utensils are usually put away during this time. If you want to kosher your own dishes, remember; there are specific rules to koshering, and some items can't be koshered, so be sure to consult with your local Rabbi.

These are simply suggestions; for specific information, consult with Rabbi Simon Rosenbach.

*Rosenbach also noted the Rabbinical Assembly publishes a guide for Pesach every year. It tells you how to clean and it tells you what foods you can buy without a Kosher for Passover label, and what foods must have Kosher for Passover label. Next year this time we will provide a link in the newsletter. ✡*



## Help Us Remodel Our Kitchen

It's estimated it will take \$60,000 to bring our kitchen into this century

April Modlinger, who has always been a pillar at Congregation Ahavas Sholom has generously pledged \$10,000 to making this happen.

we have recently received another pledge for \$2,200 bringing our total to \$12,200

With your help Congregation Ahavas Sholom will soon have a modern kitchen

we all deserve. Make your pledge today



# njpac

## groups

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\*Offer is not valid on prior sale and is valid through the date of the performance.



The company celebrates 6 decades with the NJ premiere of Rennie Harris' *Lazarus* and a *Timeless Ailey* program, plus the iconic *Revelations*.

**Fri, May 10 @ 7PM**

**Community Gospel Choir**

Voices from the Greater Newark and surrounding areas unify to make a joyful noise. Directed by Kyle Smith, St. James AME Church, Newark

**Sat, May 11 @ 7PM**

**DanceWorks Studios**

An eclectic dance company based in Montclair, NJ performs. Directed by Kathy Costa

**Sun, May 12 @ 1:30PM**

**Reflections of Cry with Judith Jamison**

A pre-performance conversation on this renowned work, first performed by Jamison in 1971.

**M&T Bank**  
dance series



For more information call 973.353.7561. To order online visit [njpac.org/fbc](http://njpac.org/fbc)



# Simon Says

*Weekly insights from Rabbi Simon Rosebach*



*Rabbi Simon Rosebach*

**T**his will be dark column, but the light will shine at the end of it. Starting Friday night, we will celebrate the holiday of Passover. Everybody knows that Passover celebrates the end of the Israelites' period of slavery in Egypt, and we will tell the story on Friday and Saturday nights: how a pharaoh "who knew not" Joseph enslaved the Israelites, how a hero arose (who is not mentioned by name in the Haggadah), how God picked the hero to lead the Israelites from slavery, how God rescued the Israelites by inflicting ten plagues on Egypt, and how the pursuing Egyptian army drowned in the sea.

But some of us (most of us? all of us?) are enslaved in a different way. Some of us are addicts or alcoholics. Every day is a nightmare, and if people are in recovery, the enslavement has a strong pull, and every day is a struggle. Some of us were victims of abuse early on, and

the abuse leaves psychological scars forever. Some of us are trapped in jobs that we don't like, but we keep going to work day after day because we have obligations and responsibilities. Some of us are ensnared in domestic abuse, but we can't leave because we don't have the courage, or the wherewithal, or because we fear what will happen to the children. Some of us are trapped in loveless marriage, but we don't leave because we don't have the courage, or the wherewithal, or because we fear what will happen to the children, or because we fear that our friends and relatives will think we are failures.

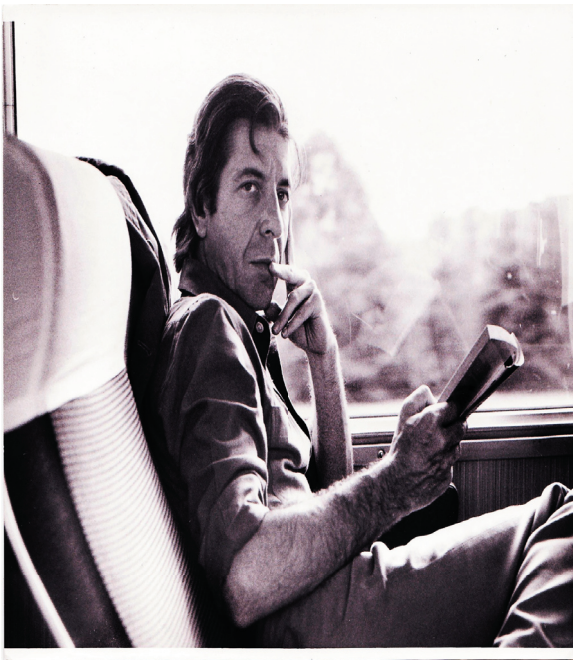
Enslavement is the comfortable choice. The Israelites constantly complained in the wilderness that they were better off in Egypt. But enslavement degrades us. Enslavement dehumanizes us. Anybody who is enslaved must get free but it is hard work.

God probably doesn't create miracles anymore, at least for individuals. But anybody who wants to be free from his or her particular enslavement, needs an anchor, a rock, and faith in God is an anchor. But everybody needs a Moses, too. Maybe, depending on your circumstances, you can lean on your loved ones. Or you can lean on a professional. You can lean on your clergy.

But the Torah tells us in no uncertain terms, if you want to leave slavery behind, you can't do it on your own.

Every year we celebrate Passover, and we should use this opportunity to start to break the shackles that enslave us (if any do). The Israelites were successful, but they had a lot of help. If you are enslaved, if you get help you will be successful as the Israelites were. And every Passover, if you are enslaved, you can celebrate the Israelites' freedom from slavery and you can celebrate your own freedom from whatever form of slavery that enslaved you as well. ✡

## Leonard Cohen Exhibit opens at the Jewish Museum of New York



Leonard Cohen. Courtesy of Old Ideas, LLC

Leonard Cohen Exhibit opens at the Jewish Museum of New York

NEW YORK, April 12, 2019 /CNW Telbec/  
- Today marks the official launch date for the Leonard Cohen: A Crack in Everything exhibition's international tour, as it makes its first stop at the Jewish Museum in New York City. Following its phenomenal success at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (MAC), where it premiered in 2017 and attracted over 315,000 visitors, the exhibition will be presented at the Jewish Museum from April 12 to September 8, 2019.

Leonard Cohen. Courtesy of Old Ideas, LLC (CNW Group/Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal) "I couldn't think of a better city than New York to begin this tour," said John Zeppetelli, Director and Chief Curator of

the MAC, earlier this week at the exhibition's press preview in New York. "It's an extraordinary time for the Museum and a fantastic opportunity to revisit, in a different context, this exhibition, which reached such a wide audience in Montreal," he added.

For her part, Claudia Gould, the Helen Goldsmith Menschel Director of the Jewish Museum, wished to thank the MAC for creating such a "truly visionary exhibition." "I saw the exhibition in Montreal a year and a half ago. I came in as a Leonard Cohen fan and I left as a

Leonard Cohen fan incredibly moved by what I experienced,” she mentioned. She emphasized that an audience of all ages will enjoy the exhibition, adding that “Leonard Cohen is cross generational. This exhibition is more than about a man, it is about a life. A life and a legacy that call to all generations.”

A truly multidisciplinary exhibition combining visual art, installations, music and writing, Leonard Cohen: A Crack in Everything offers the public a collection of new works created by a remarkable group of local and international artists who have been inspired by Leonard Cohen’s life, work and legacy. The audience is invited to experience an in-depth, immersive, participatory and visually captivating journey.

The exhibition will be presented slightly differently in New York than it was in Montreal: the MAC collaborated with the Jewish Museum to create a unique presentation adapted to the latter museum’s spaces and layouts, while respecting the exhibition’s concept, spirit and nature. While Cohen fans and contemporary art and music aficionados from New York and abroad will discover the exhibition for the first time, visitors who had already seen it in Montreal can revisit it and enjoy its new configuration in a completely different space.

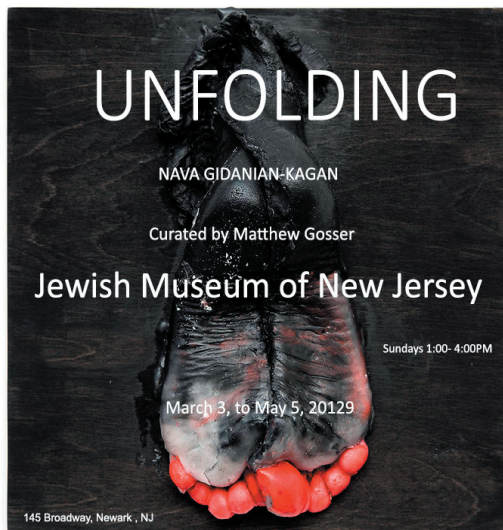
The Jewish Museum’s presentation includes the works of artists Kara Blake, Candice Breitz, Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller, Christophe Chassol, Daily tous les jours, Tacita Dean, Kota Ezawa, George Fok, Ari Folman, Jon Rafman and Taryn Simon.

Leonard Cohen’s self-portraits are also presented as part of the exhibition, as well as the audio installation Listening to Leonard, where visitors can listen to cover versions of Cohen’s songs performed by guest artists, including Feist, Lou Doillon, Moby, and The National with Sufjan Stevens, Richard Reed Parry and Ragnar Kjartansson.

After New York, the tour will continue on to Copenhagen, at the Kunstforeningen GL STRAND and Nikolaj Kunsthal from October 23, 2019 to March 8, 2020; followed by San Francisco, at the Contemporary Jewish Museum, from September 17, 2020 to January 3, 2021. Plans are underway to extend this first phase of the tour and add additional destinations.

### ***About the exhibition***

Organized entirely by the MAC for Montreal’s 375th anniversary A Crack in Everything received the approval of Leonard Cohen himself and was launched a year after his passing





### CAS Tzedakah Honor Roll

We would like to thank and recognize those who gave so generously to support Congregation Ahavas

Sholom in its various efforts to foster Tikun Olam

#### **Russell Moy Scholarship Fund**

Kenneth and Gina Mandelbaum; Julia Falgares

#### **Education Fund**

Wendy Renov, in honor of our B'nai Mitzvah

#### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Wendy Renov, in honor of Rabbi Simon Rosenbach, Fred Garber, Dubra Shenker, & Eric Freedman.

Flora Sonners

Linda Forgosh

Bill Oppenheim

Leonard Sanders

Debbie Shai in honor of the auf ruf of Ben Rosenbach and Stephanie Israelson

*Toda Raba*

*“Freedom is within our grasp, and Pesach reminds us that we need to reach.”*

*Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson*

Join us this Saturday for Shabbat services. Strangers, visitors, friends, old and new; our doors are open to you. Looking for a new home? New members are always welcome at Congregation Ahavas Sholom services starts at 9:00AM. Our congregation is open and welcoming, so feel free to pay us a visit.

### Kiddush Sponsorship

Last week Kiddush was sponsored by Rabbi Simon Rosenbach in honor his son, Ben's wedding. This week Kiddush is being sponsored by Amy Schonhaut. The cost of sponsoring Kiddush is \$150, which barely covers the cost of the lunch. Our goal is to have every Kiddush sponsored. To sponsor a Kiddush, email Rabbi Rosenbach or contact Alla Eicheldinger at [Alla7815@yahoo.com](mailto:Alla7815@yahoo.com). You can also help us by shopping, which doesn't cost any money, just a little time. We'll give you a list of items, you shop and we'll reimburse you.



uring Pesach, we are not to have any Hametz in our houses (and cars, or places of business, etc.). It's impractical and very costly simply to discard our hametz, so the custom evolved to sell our hametz to a non-Jew. The sale is absolute, but to insure that the buyer does not actually walk into our houses and cart our hametz away, the sale is usually conducted in this way: the buyer agrees to pay a large sum, say, \$1,000,000, structured as \$1.00 down and \$999,999 to be paid at the end of the holiday. When the buyer can't fulfill the contract, ownership of the hametz reverts to us.

I have for years worked in tandem with Rabbi Mark Mallach at Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael to sell our hametz. If you want to sell your hametz, mail the proxy below the dotted line to Rabbi Mark Mallach, Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael, 60 Temple Drive, Springfield, New Jersey 07082, with a check (usually for \$18) to Rabbi Mallach's Discretionary Fund. If you desire to perform a ceremony of ritual kinyan (acquisition) in person, call Rabbi Mallach at 973-376-0539 to arrange an appointment.

Pesach starts this year on Friday evening, April 19, so we must have our hametz sold by 10:00 am on that day. That means we must insure that Rabbi Mallach receives the proxy by 10:00 am on April 19. I have inserted language in the proxy for pets and pet food.

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, fully empower and permit Rabbi Mark Mallach to act on my behalf and to sell all hametz, as defined by Torah and rabbinic law, that I possess, whether knowingly or unknowingly. I also fully empower and permit the rabbi to lease all places that I own or possess in which hametz may be found. (Check if applicable: ☐ I also fully empower and permit the rabbi to sell my pets and their food.) This sale and lease transaction will be in effect for the duration of Pesach, from 10:00 am on Nisan 14, 5779 (corresponding to April 19, 2019), through one hour after sundown on Nisan 22, 5779 (corresponding to April 22, 2019).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_