



HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

INNOVATE & INTEGRATE - CREATING COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

Kislev/Tevesh 5772

December 2011

Reflections from the Rabbi - Preparing for the Party By Rabbi Neil Kurshan



The movie, "Get Low", tells the true story of Felix Breazeale who lived in East Tennessee in the 1930's. Felix was like many men of his time and place, a rough hewn fox hunter

living in a hillside cabin, except for one unusual occurrence toward the end of his life. Felix gave himself a funeral before he died. According to the newspaper accounts of the time thousands attended the service. I am not sure why Felix wanted his funeral before his death, but perhaps he wanted to hear all the nice things that would be said about him while he was still alive. In the movie version of his life everyone attending the Felix's funeral is told to come with a story about Felix that they will be prepared to tell. In the end none of the stories are shared, because Felix is the only speaker at his funeral. He needs his "funeral" to confess his role in a tragic set of events that happened earlier in his life.

Watching this movie reminded that even if funerals for living individuals are rare, there are many other non-traditional aspects of funerals that are becoming commonplace. A recent newspaper article described the funeral of Margaret Goldsmith, a real estate agent in Los Angeles, who while battling ovarian cancer, spent hours on the phone with her sister planning her funeral service. She wanted the service at a historic landmark with one friend playing bagpipes and another singing "I'll Fly Away" from the film "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" Everyone who attended the funeral reported that they had an "enjoyable" time. Margaret's husband assembled a slide show about his wife's life

that was shown at the service, and her best friend told hilarious stories about Margaret's life. The writer of the newspaper article mused that her own husband would never be able to get such a slide show together in time for her funeral, and asked herself if she should start creating her own memorial show now. The general point of the article was that baby boomers are shifting to more personalized and less traditional funeral services. The reporter noted that a website launched three years ago helps people design their own funeral services. The home page of the site proclaims, "You only get one chance to make a last impression."

While most people who ask me to officiate at a funeral are seeking a traditional Jewish service, in recent years I have received a few requests for something more creative. At one funeral I was asked if it would be all right to play a favorite piece of music of the deceased at the service, and at another service an electronic photographic display of images of the deceased's life was set up at the front of the chapel.

Most of the changes in Jewish funeral services that I have seen over the years of my rabbinate have been more subtle. When I began conducting funeral services thirty-three years ago, the rabbi was usually the only speaker at the service. Now family members and close friends will often speak. On the whole this is a positive change. It allows for a more personal eulogy for the deceased especially when the rabbi did not know the individual. Sometimes it is very important for a mourner to put their grief into words and even to say what may not said to the deceased when they were alive. The downside of family and friends speaking is that sometimes the intensity of the emotion can prevent them from getting through their remarks. Also with multiple

speakers funerals can become very long, and I was recently a guest at a funeral with ten speakers that lasted almost three hours.

I always say to family members that there is not a right answer whether or not to speak at a funeral. For some individuals it is cathartic and the right thing to do. For others it is premature and impossible because the emotions are too raw and the grief is overwhelming. With growing pressure on family members to speak at a funeral, I find myself reassuring people that it is all right simply to attend the funeral and grieve without the pressure of being a speaker at the service.

Despite the desire for more creativity at funeral services in the general world, there seems to be a counter trend in the Jewish world toward greater tradition. I find that mourners at the cemetery more often want to fill in the grave themselves to cover the casket before leaving. I think more people are sitting shiva and seeking an evening shiva minyan at their home. My impressions are anecdotal, but I think that given our rich resources, many Jews are reassured by Jewish tradition and don't want to deviate too far from it.

Whether a funeral is traditional or non-traditional, I have always felt that conducting a funeral service is one of the most sacred responsibilities entrusted to me as a rabbi. I understand my task as escorting the soul of the individual who has died from this world to the world to come. (The Hebrew

con't on page 15



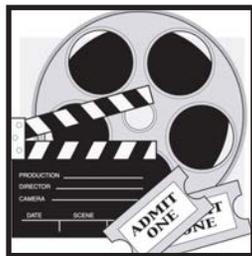
Adult Education



JEWISH PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM

Monday evening, December 5 at 8:00 pm
in the Family Life Center
Topic ~ Israel Social Justice Protests:
Causes and Outcomes
Instructor: Ken Bob

We will look at some of the main topics on the American Jewish and Israeli public agenda by reading circulated articles in advance and then delving into the issues in depth at each session. Our first session will look at the implications of the protests by 450,000 Israelis this past summer around issues of social justice.

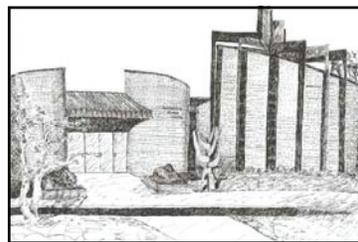
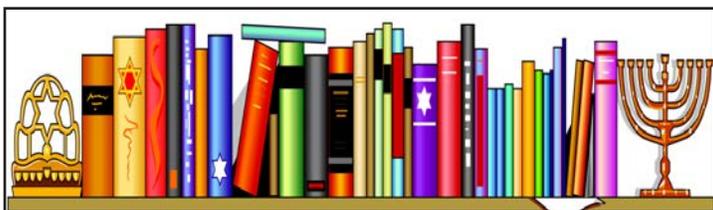


SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: THE AFTERLIFE

Saturday evening, December 10 at 7:30 pm
in the Family Life Center
Film ~ Departures
Instructor: Rabbi Neil Kurshan

We will watch three critically acclaimed films about the afterlife, a topic often ignored in Jewish studies. Each film will be followed by a discussion led by Rabbi Kurshan that will highlight Jewish understandings of Olom HaBa – The World to Come. Departures is a beautiful film that won the 2008 Academy Award for best foreign language film. Although it tells a story of how souls are guided from this world to the next in Japanese culture, it reveals a practice and worldview remarkably similar to Judaism. Refreshments will be served and there will be a parallel children's movie shown in the Gym with babysitting. BYOB for Children: Bring Your Own Blanket. BYOB for Adults: Bring Your Own Bottle.

Next movie: **Defending Your Life--January 7**



Neil Kurshan, Rabbi
423-5355

Israel Gordan, Cantor
427-1089, ext. 22

Sue Meisler
Nursery School Director
425-0525

Mitch Pashkin
President
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Maxine Fisher
Religious School Director
427-1157

Jane Hallberg
Administrator
427-1089 ext. 23

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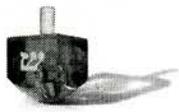
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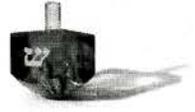
HJC Committee Chairpersons

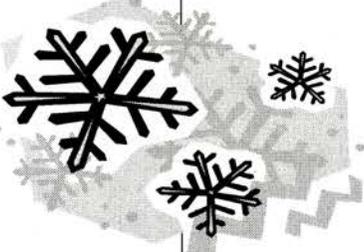
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Tree of Life.....	Tom Rosen
UJA.....	Scott Ingber
Youth.....	Shari Klair
Youth Advisor.....	Elana Marcus



December 2011

5772 Kislev/Tevet



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Minyan Breakfast Shabbat Services 6pm	3 Bar Mitzvah Oren Yaari Vayetze
4 RS Vav Workshop 9am RS Board Meet- ing 11:45am USY/Kad	5 Jewish Public Affairs Forum w/Ken Bob 8pm Tiger Mom vs Jewish Mom 9:45am	6 Adult B/B Mitzvah Class w/ Rabbi Kur- shan 10:30am  Chaverim 6:15	7 HIHI	8	9 FNL Dinner 6:00pm  Shabbat Services 6pm	10 TOT Shabbat 10:45am Sat. Night at the Movies 7:30pm w/ child's movie Vayishlach 
11 Mitzvah Team Leadership Workshop - 10am USY	12 Sisterhood Board Meeting 8pm	13	14	15	16 Shabbat Services 6pm	17 Men's Club Mini-Golf 7pm  Vayeshev
18 HJC Hanukkah Happening 	19 NS Parent Asso- ciation Meeting 9:45am	20 Adult B/B Mitzvah Class w/Rabbi Kur- shan 10:30am Candle Light- ing 6:15pm Erev Hanukkah Chaverim 6:15 	21  Hanukkah	22  Winter Begins Hanukkah	23 NO NS  Hanukkah Shabbat Services 6pm	24  Hanukkah Miketz
25 NO RS HIHI  Hanukkah	26 NO  Rosh Chodesh Hanukkah	27 NO RS NURSERY  Rosh Chodesh Hanukkah	28  Hanukkah	29 SCHOOL	30 Shabbat Services 6pm	31 Vayigash

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

by Mitch Pashkin



For the Love of it...

As I write this article on the first Sunday afternoon of November while I watch the NY Giants game (Being a synagogue president requires a lot of multi-tasking with the other aspects of your life.), I reflect back on a difficult couple of weeks as President followed by a wonderful last couple of days. The difficulty of the last couple of weeks as well as of holding the position in general comes from the nature of the position- You bear the burden of making many decisions, bear the burden of carrying out decisions that are made by leadership as a whole and bear the brunt of people's dissatisfaction with the decisions and actions (both things that got done and things that did not get done) that are made by myself, others on the board of trustees and other volunteers.

The challenge both in general and recently comes in figuring out how to react to those who express their dissatisfaction to both me as President and to others. The balancing act comes in trying to balance the needs and reactions of many different people and the need to keep and attract volunteers with the need to make certain difficult decisions for the overall long-term health of the congregation. For many years the debate has raged throughout our hallways and in meetings about the right balance between making decisions based on the business needs of the synagogue and the fact that we are a religious institution and an institution made up of volunteers. I doubt this debate ever will end. I am guessing that the question of what is the right balance as well as how to execute the right balance is something with which every President has struggled. I can be fairly certain that each successive president will continue to face this challenge.

While I never would be as bold or arrogant as to believe that I know or have struck the right balance, I firmly believe that there is a bottom line: we have to make decisions that are good not only for the short-term but also for the long-term. We have to make decisions that will result in one thing: continuing to be a strong, vibrant, financially stable organization that can continue to adapt to the needs of our congregants as well as to the changing demographics and the needs of the potential members and potential students of our religious and nursery schools. We have to continue to be there and not go the way of many of our fellow conservative synagogues.

One of the things that will help us continue to be there will be those who volunteer and work hard just for the love of our schul and for the Jewish community and for the joy they get out of making others happy. While there are many, I happened to experience two examples of this the past three days that makes me remember my good fortune in being a part of this community.

Yesterday after Shabbat, those of us fortunate enough to have been at schul got the pleasure of experiencing a Kiddush prepared in the HJC kitchen by our fellow congregant Joanne Cohn. As an addition to the wonderful deserts provided by Cantor Gordon and Abbey in honor of their daughter Noa's first birthday, Joanne prepared fish

chowder, coleslaw, pumpkin bread and other fresh-made treats. Joanne loves to cook for the congregation, and does so on many occasions throughout the year. She takes pride in bringing us new recipes; and she especially enjoys when she can use the ingredients from the HJC organic garden which Joanne tends virtually by herself. As I watch Joanne serve the food, and see the smile and pride on her face as she watches and hears us enjoy her various concoctions and see her breathe a sigh of relief when she realizes that there will be enough food for everyone to have at least a taste, I can tell that Joanne does this for us not for a pat on the back or for any type of honor but simply because she wants to bring us some joy through tasty and healthy food at a Shabbat Kiddush.

This weekend HJC hosted a USY Kinnus weekend (an almost 3 day long gathering of close to 150 Jewish teenagers from throughout Long Island). It was inspiring to be at HJC throughout the weekend and watch the teenagers come together as a group to pray, study, eat, dance, play games and meet new friends. We were hosting a part of the future Long Island Jewish community. The hosting of a Kinnus requires a lot of support from the hosting shul; and I am proud to say that our schul came through for the Kinnus. Many HJC families housed groups of teenagers and drove them back and forth to HJC at all hours including retrieving them at midnight on Saturday after their evening event. If it was anything like my house, many families sacrificed their time; sleep and peace and quiet along with the cleanliness of their homes to help HJC very successfully host the Kinnus. In addition, a group of volunteers cooked and served food and acted as chaperones. Toward the end

con't on page 13



USY NEWS

by Josh Morris

Within the past couple of weeks, HJC had the privilege of experiencing a fall kinnus within our own community. After many calls to homes in the synagogue by the USY board, numerous congregants offered up their homes in order to house the upwards of 120 USYers that attended this year's fall kinnus. Whether it was 4 children or 15 children (which was the top number for this year's kinnus), every little bit aided in this event's success.

The real excitement started the weekend before kinnus when the co-chairs of this event along with the Rakevet board gathered at HJC to assemble the accoutrements of the kinnus. Some USYers from our own chapter as well as some kadima members helped as the famous kinnus banner was painted, centerpieces were created, and housing was set up.

The following Friday signified the real start of kinnus weekend. At around 3:30, the first USYers began to arrive equipped with everything they would need for the weekend. A program on learning to "unplug" started off the weekend, relating to the theme of the kinnus which was "Apple products and electronics". Evening services were carried out and congregants lined up to take their array of children home. Saturday morning services were held in the Family Life Room for the 120 or so kids and the rest of the day was

con't on page 6

HJC Community News

We extend our sincere condolences to...

Evelyn Silverberg on the death of her stepmother, Jean Abraham
Molly Halperin on the death of her husband, our congregant, Seymour Halperin
To the family of our congregant, Hannah Lifson

Yashir Kochach to this month's Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

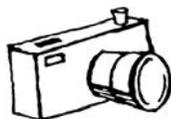
Oren Yaari Son of Elizabeth and Ronen Yaari



Oren Yaari was the youngest biker on the 300 mile Hazon Bike ride in Israel this November. His physical stamina to ride and swim long distances equals his mental stamina to navigate science and math problems. If you stand outside our house you may have the pleasure of hearing Oren play the cello and when you come

in will be offered his award winning cheesecake. We love you so much Oren - Elizabeth, Ronen, Tal and Lior

Attention all HJC Members PHOTOS WANTED



If anyone has photos taken at HJC events, feel free to submit them to me at kwillen@mac.com for the Bulletin by the 10th of the month for the next month's bulletin.

Mazel Tov

Arlene and Fred Steinberg announce the birth of their grandson, Mason Sam Goldstein.
Shelley & Marc Weinberg announce the birth of their granddaughter, Andie Jill Zucker.
Mira & Paul Brodsky announce the marriage of their daughter, Renatt, to Jeffrey Margolies

Welcome to our new members

Charles Neidorff & Hedy Roestenberg of Halesite
Eric & Jillian Damast of Syosset and their children: Robby, age 5 and Mia, age 1½

A Tree for Pearl



Members of the Social Action Committee, which Pearl Rosen chaired for many years, would like to plant a tree in her memory.

She was a special and wonderful person who left a lasting impact on adults and children alike.

She was devoted to the cause of social action in our community and a tree would, be a testament to her devotion to our synagogue and the people in the community.

If anyone would like to join in this celebration of her life, please make a check payable to **Social Action** and note in memo **PEARL'S TREE**.

Bring check to the office and the Bookkeeper will keep track of all donations. Please note that NO funds from the Social Action treasury will be used for this project. For those who knew and loved her it just seems like a good thing to do.



Improving our Confidence and Comfort by Israel Gordon



One of the most difficult aspects of Judaism, in my opinion, is always feeling like you don't know enough. If you think about attending services at a synagogue, you have to know what to wear, how to wear it, when to enter the room, where you can sit, what book to pick up, follow along in a foreign language, know when to sit and when to stand, figure out why some things are said out loud and some are done quietly, why sometimes everyone is singing

and why sometimes it's just the cantor, and all of the choreography, like when to move, when to bow, and how to respond correctly to a specific greeting. It's very easy to understand why someone might feel uncomfortable or intimidated simply by the thought of going to shul. And what about if you're offered an aliyah or another part in the service? It is supposed to be an honor to be called to the Torah, but you have to know where to go, when to go there, and what to do once you're there, in addition to knowing when you're done and should "leave." There are many potentially embarrassing mistakes to be made by anyone who doesn't know exactly how things are done.

I have to confess, I often feel this way as well. Many congregations have different customs as to how they do things. I always think that if I do something differently than how it's usually done at a synagogue, then I'm going to upset or offend someone, and it can make me very nervous. Am I supposed to approach the Bimah now, or wait until later? Do I go to the right side or the left? Do people stand for this tefilla here, or is it normally done sitting? Should I be saying this out loud, or do people recite it silently here? Is anyone noticing the sweat collecting on my brow?

Luckily, I haven't felt that way at the HJC. One of the greatest things about our shul, is that it really is a very warm and welcoming place. I don't get the sense that there are people out to make others uncomfortable. In fact, just the opposite is true: guests and visitors often feel very comfortable and are offered help in finding there place. In addition, we have provided opportunities for people to try things out and experiment in a safer space than many other synagogues might be.

I do suspect, however, that there are people in our community who would like to know more and learn new things in order to be more confident in their synagogue skills. So I am officially calling all volunteers!

To anyone who's ever wanted to learn how to read Torah or Haftarah, come and learn! If you've wanted to know how to lead services, let me know! Or even if you're not sure how to have an aliyah or lift or wrap the Torah, let's go over it together! We can all improve our synagogue skills and I am here to help.

In addition to me teaching people, if there are people in the community who excel in a particular synagogue or musical skill, I would love to learn from you. If you play an instrument, arrange music, conduct choirs, or are a particularly good Torah, Haftarah, or megilla reader,

please let me know so that we can use your skills to enrich our entire community's experiences. The more people who are actively involved the more exciting, fulfilling, and enriching a place this can be for everyone.

So if you have any comments, concerns, suggestions, or questions, email me at cantorgordan@hjeny.org or call me at (631) 427-1089 x22. I look forward to hearing from you!



USY News con't from page 4

garnished with programs and discussions relating to the theme. With havdallah finished, the USYers returned back to their respective houses and got dressed for the evening dance. Upon their arrival back to the shul, a SA/TO (Social Action/ Tikkun Olam) program was held in which the various grades competed in a musical game of Jeopardy. The dance was complete with two moonbounces, dinner, and of course plenty of music. A good time was had by all, but it was an especially unique experience for the members of our HJC chapter, as we were able to represent a good percentage of our members at the kinnus weekend. At the same time they experienced a divisional event, which many in our chapter hadn't gotten the opportunity to attend until then. Overall, the weekend was a great success and we would like to thank all parent volunteers and congregants who housed children during this time. We can't wait until its our turn to host again!

Moving forward in the year, I would still like to remind you that it is never too late to join our chapter, and increasing membership leads to increasing fun and a wider variety of opportunities for our chapter. As an example, East Northport Jewish Center, which boasts a chapter of around 30 members is holding an event at Island Rock this weekend, to which our chapter is invited to. It would be very difficult to get something like this together with the attendance in our chapter. So I encourage you to consider our program, whether you attend one meeting or all of them, I'm sure you will not regret it. Once again I'm always available for questions or concerns at joshmo@optonline.net

This week Marisa Pashkin led us in a "Sunday is Sundae in Israel" program in which teams answered Israeli trivia questions in order to earn different parts of the sundae. First team to the spoon won!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving!



It's almost time for the annual
HJC Chanukah Happening!
Sunday, December 18th



Enjoy the Sing-a-long, Crafts, Hot Dogs, Latkes,
Donuts, Drinks, Teen Fun, and Book Fair.
Be a winner - participate in the Raffle Drawing
See you there

We are all looking forward to the opening of the
completely new
HJC/Tasman Library

Have you made your pledge for Torah Fund as
yet? Your Torah Fund contribution supports the
Jewish Theological Seminary, the educational
arm of Conservative Judaism.
Contact :
Vicki Rosen - (631 271-7732 or
Dorothy Tydings - (516) 367-4116

Scrip cards from **Waldbaum's and Pathmark** make
wonderful holiday gifts, simultaneously your Scrip
card purchase will assist Sisterhood in achieving its
objectives. For further information call
Hannah Kampel at (631) 423-6575.

Meet the author,
a Nursery School mother
on February 7th. Further information to follow.

Let Sarah set your celebration table!
Sisterhood has menus suitable for many occasions
when you want to share with your fellow congregants.
For more information, call Sarah Saunders,
(631)757-2622 or email at ssaunds@aol.com.



**Huntington
Jewish
Center**

**50/50
raffle**

The drawing will take place at the
Chanukah Happening on
December 18, 2011.

Somebody will win a lot of money and it
could be you - but remember,
You have to be in it to win it!
\$36 per ticket/ 2 for \$50



Huntington Jewish Center
50-50 Raffle

Drawing at the Chanukah Happening on
December 18, 2011
(Need not be present to win.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

\$36 per ticket/ 2 for \$50
Yes! I would like _____ tickets.
Total Donation: _____
Please make checks payable to:
Huntington Jewish Center

NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

By Sue Meisler, Director



I recently read a wonderful account of a South African tribe custom that I would like to share with all of you. It is a custom that would probably serve us well in our country, families, schools, work place and other group relationships. Here is how the story was told.

“Within the Babemba tribe of South Africa, antisocial or criminal behavior is infrequent, but when it does occur, the tribe has an interesting ritual for dealing with it.

If a member of the tribe acts irresponsibly, he is placed in the center of the village. Work stops and every man, woman and child gather around the accused, forming a large circle. Then, one at a time, each individual, including the children, call out all the good things the person in the center has done in his lifetime.

All his positive attributes, good deeds, strength and kind acts are recited carefully and at length. No one is permitted to tell an untruth, to exaggerate or be facetious. The ceremony often lasts for several days and doesn't stop until everyone is drained of every positive comment he or she can muster about the person within the circle. Not a word of criticism about him or his irresponsible, antisocial behavior is permitted. At the end, the tribal circle breaks up, a joyous celebration begins, and the person is welcomed back into the tribe.”

I have often told parents in my support groups throughout the year, that when you accent the positive aspects of your children's behavior and personal qualities, they will rise to the positive image you have of them. So often parents will turn to punishments and time-outs to try and change the ill behavior of their child's actions. Through the many years I have raised children of my own, and the 42 years I have been involved with early childhood education, the one thing I have realized is that children rarely learn from those negative techniques. Children never own their own behavior that got them punished, but spend all the time in isolation and punishment resenting the parent who put them in that position.

From 1889-1901 Andrew Carnegie was the largest steel manufacturer in the United States. He was, at that time, the wealthiest man in America. In his day, being a millionaire was equivalent to 20 million dollars today. He had hired forty-three millionaires to work for him. These men were not always millionaires. When asked by a reporter one day, “Well, how did you develop these men to become so valuable to you that you paid them that much money?” Carnegie replied, “People are developed the same way gold is mined. When gold is mined, several tons of dirt and stone must be moved first to get an ounce of gold, but one doesn't go into the mine looking for dirt—one goes in looking for gold.” It is that message I try to give to the parents of our school when they ask me about their children's unruly behavior.

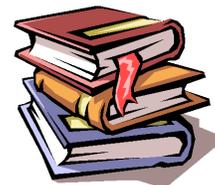
In our classrooms, teachers accentuate the positive behavior of children. Often I hear teachers thanking children for their patience, kindness, sharing their possessions, helping others and so much

more. The children, who have not yet developed these social attributes, listen to the teacher's recognition of what expectations she has of the children in her charge. One of the teachers in our school developed a “complement circle time” as a regular experience in her class.” The children sit in a circle randomly and are asked to tell the person next to him/her all the qualities they like in their circle neighbor. When the African community sought to describe the positive qualities that define the tribal member who veered from their expectations, they did the exact same thing that Andrew Carnegie did with his workers. They recognized that the more good qualities we look for in people, the more we are going to find. The Babemba community wanted to remind this one tribal member that they can see all the wonderful qualities hidden inside him waiting to come out.

My mother was gifted at finding the good in people. She spent most of her life looking only at the qualities in people that she appreciated and not the qualities she might not have thought admirable. When I saw behavior that was unacceptable in friends while I was growing up, her very first comment to me was, “what qualities did you like in this friend that made you be friends in the first place?” Although I always felt frustrated with that question as I so wanted her to validate my position, I realize now that she was similar to the Babemba tribe—guiding me to once again discover the wonderful qualities that I expected of my friend. Her lesson was a permanent one for me. Whenever I become disenchanted with a friend's behavior in my life now, I often look to ask myself the same question so that I can look for the gold, not the dirt; the good, not the bad.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if more people practiced what the Babemba tribe does with socially inappropriate behavior? If all parents could find the moment of awe when they first saw their child, and keep that expression and feeling throughout their years of parenting, more children would go through life with better self-esteem, an appreciation of others, and the resolve to live up to the expectations of the tribe.

HJC Library Moves Forward



We are moving closer to the reopening of the library with the generous donation of two computers and one printer from a member of the Huntington Community. To be ready for this we will paint and generally do everything to make this a vibrant part of our synagogue. There is so much yet to be done and any help would be greatly appreciated.

Donations would be wonderful, manhours would be wonderful, help in getting information onto the computer would be wonderful. There is ample opportunity for everyone to be part of this. Any questions, please contact me at syd519@gmail.com, or 631 261 2330. I look forward to welcoming all of you at the completion of this task
Syd Schlesinger



Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative

This December, Huntington Jewish Center will be joining with other local houses of worship to provide food, shelter and basic clothing to approximately 20-30 homeless men in our community through the Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative, organized through the Family Service League. We will be hosting these guests for five nights this winter. Many supplies and volunteers are needed to ensure the success of this program. Bins will be placed in the Synagogue to collect needed supplies. We will be hosting on

- December 7**
- December 25**
- January 11**
- February 1**
- February 29**
- March 14**
- March 21.**

There are a number of jobs that need to be done each night. These include:

1. Set-up from 4-5:30 PM involves setting up the sleeping bags and toilet articles, setting the tables and putting out snacks and drinks. This is a good job for young people
2. Prepare dinner in HJC Kitchen. This should be done late in the afternoon before the guests arrive or on the prior day. These details are still being worked out.

Most of the volunteers at the other churches/synagogues provide the ingredients out of their own pockets. Several families can volunteer for this and share the shopping and preparing.

3. Serve dinner and clean-up from 5:30-7 pm
4. Chaperones 7:30-12 MN and 12 MN-5 am. There is always a paid chaperone from the Family Service League from 7:30 pm on. The guests go to sleep around 8:30-9 pm.
5. Provide breakfast items
6. Prepare and Serve Breakfast and morning clean-up 5-7 am the next morning.
7. Laundry needs to be brought to Laundromat and then back to HJC
8. Prepare bag lunches at HJC to be given to the men when they leave in the morning. Good opportunity for kids/youth group. Again, ingredients supplied by the families.
9. Anyone with special skills such as ESL, haircuts, podiatrists, dentist, etc

If you are interested in more information or would like to volunteer, please contact either

Ellen Steinberg at 516 971-4983
 or
Ellen.steinberg728@gmail.com or
Karen Flanzenbaum at kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com

HIHI SUPPLY DRIVE

CLOTHING NEEDS

- Sweatshirts with Hoods
- Knit hats
- Winter Coats
- Jeans (32-38)
- Shirts/Workshirts
- New Warm Socks
- New Underwear M/L
- Winter Gloves
- Sweat pants
- Work Boots or Sneakers

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

- Individual hot chocolate packets
- Lemonade/Fruit punch drink mixes (Jumbo)
- Pretzels (large jar)
- Hot sauce
- Large bags of Tortilla chips
- Salsa
- Pancake Syrup
- Pancake mix
- Paper lunch bags
- Juice boxes
- Granola Bars
- Small bottled waters

TOILETRIES

- Combs
- Large Liquid Soap Dispensers
- Hand Lotion – Large and individual
- Chap Sticks

MISCELLANEOUS

- Hand Towels or Large Towels cut up
- Playing Cards
- Spanish DVDs
- Dominoes/Chess/Checkers
- Monetary donations welcome

Donations

צדקה

GENERAL FUND

Harriet Harris in memory of Benjamin Alpert at yahrzeit.
Roger Koreen in memory of Grace Koreen at yahrzeit.
Joyce Sacknoff in memory of Margaret Fuchs at yahrzeit.
Tania & Marvin Lipkind in memory of Sylvia Hudes at yahrzeit.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in memory of Roberta Glaser, wife of Phil Glaser.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in memory of Stan Koven, husband of Marilyn Koven.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in memory of their parents.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in honor of the birth of Sydney Grace Rosenberg, granddaughter of Phyllis & Andy Levy.
Ron Koas in memory of Drora Koas Mike at yahrzeit.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Eva Barfus at yahrzeit.
Lawrence Maltin in memory of Ruth Maltin at yahrzeit.
Loron Simon in memory of Dorothy Simon at yahrzeit.
Rosalind Shaffer in memory of Sam Shaffer at yahrzeit.
David Schoenfarber in memory of Gertrude Schoenfarber at yahrzeit.
Barbara & Herbert Stone in memory of Samuel Stone at yahrzeit.
Andrea Dubow in memory of Samuel Goldstein at yahrzeit.
Silvina & Jeff Kramer & family in memory of Mark Lubroth, husband of Verna Lubroth.
Silvina & Jeff Kramer & family in memory of Mark Lubroth, father of Ilene Schapero.
Judith & Arthur Goldstein in recognition & appreciation of being selected as an HJC Simchat Torah honoree.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of Arthur Goldstein & Evelyn Silverberg as the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.
Ellen & Newt Meiselman in memory of Jennie Bloom at yahrzeit.
Ellen & Newt Meiselman in memory of Stan Koven, husband of Marilyn Koven.
Ellen & Newt Meiselman in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.
Jay Meyer in memory of Beatrice Meyer at yahrzeit.
Meri Schindler in memory of Terry Stafford at yahrzeit.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Seymour Halperin, husband of Molly Halperin.
Vicki & Arthur Perler, Renda & Ken Rosenblatt, Leslie & Jack Rubin, Ellen & Jay Steinberg and Janet & Mark Zimmerman in memory of Jean Abraham, stepmother of Evelyn Silverberg.
Silvina & Jeff Kramer & family in memory of Hannah Lifson.
Arlene Rubenstein in memory of her brother-in-law, Les Rubenstein.
Marsha P. Kalina in memory of Dora Perlmutter at yahrzeit.
Marsha P. Kalina in memory of Martin Perlmutter at yahrzeit.
Ethel Sachs in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Jared Meiselman, grandson of Ellen & Newt Meiselman.
Ethel Sachs in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Newt Meiselman.
Karann & Mitch Pashkin in honor of the marriage of Brandon, son of Andrea Smoller, to Jessica Ironman.
Phyllis Simon & Meyer Steinberg in honor of the 90th birthday of Frank Wolff.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Joy Levitt
Myrna Tils in memory of Louise Friedman at yahrzeit.
Herbert Haber in memory of Fanny Haber at yahrzeit.
Rosalind & Billy Wertheim & family in honor of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Joanne & Peter Cohn in honor of the marriage of Brandon, son of Andrea Smoller, to Jessica Ironman.
Joanne & Peter Cohn in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.
Rosalind & Billy Wertheim & family in honor of Cantor Israel Gordan.

ARK & PULPIT FUND

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in honor of Arthur Goldstein as an HJC Simchat Torah honoree.
Joan & Robert Blank in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Fritz Hammerschlag at yahrzeit.
Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Charlotte Hammerschlag at yahrzeit.
Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Harold Hammerschlag at yahrzeit.
Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Willy Loewenstein at yahrzeit.
Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Jean Abraham, stepmother of Evelyn Silverberg.
Joan & Robert Blank in memory of Seymour Halperin, husband of Molly Halperin.
Andrea & Greg Morris in honor of the marriage of Brandon, son of Andrea Smoller, to Jessica Ironman.
Andrea & Greg Morris in honor of the 1st birthday of Noa, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abby Uhrman.

COLLEGIATE FUND

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in honor of Evelyn Silverberg as an HJC Simchat Torah honoree.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.
Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of the 50th birthday of Bruce Rosen.
Sylvia Brass in memory of Lester Brass at yahrzeit.
Selma Greenstein in honor of the marriage of Danielle Vilinsky, granddaughter of Shirley Vilinsky, to Ian Herrick.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Daniel, grandson of Phyllis & Kenny Berkowitz.

Donations

צדקה

Judith & Lester Fox wishing a speedy recovery to Harvey Fader.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of Arthur Goldstein & Evelyn Silverberg as the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the milestone birthday of Shimmy Kornblatt.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.

EDWARD SPEVACK KOCHAVIM FUND

Sue Spevack Graze in memory of Barbara & Edward Spevack.

EVA HOFMAN KRAMER FUND

Judy & Arthur Goldstein

LEAH GREENE GARDEN FUND

Susan & David Lefkowitz in memory of Viola Stupp at yahrzeit.
Susan & David Lefkowitz in memory of Meyer Hepner at yahrzeit.

LIBRARY FUND

HJC Sisterhood with thanks to Meri & Ed Schindler for donating the beautiful display cabinets for the Sisterhood Judaica Shop.

HJC Sisterhood with thanks to Bruce Fleiss & Larry Wagner for their help with the Sisterhood Judaica Shop.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Roz & David Steinberg in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Jared Meiselman, grandson of Newt & Ellen Meiselman.

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Brianna Zoe, granddaughter of Myrna Breger.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Janet & Martin Kushnick in memory of Ann Labb at yahrzeit.
Janet & Martin Kushnick in memory of Allen Miller at yahrzeit.
Hannah & Bill Kampel in memory of Seymour Halperin, husband of Molly Halperin.
Hannah & Bill Kampel in memory of Hannah Lifson.
Ruth Wies in memory of Seymour Halperin, husband of Molly Halperin.
Shirley Vilinsky in memory of Lena Trenk at yahrzeit.

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Ethel Sachs in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Ellen & Newt Meiselman.



Potato Latkes



Potato Latke Recipe

(adapted from recipe in A FIRST JEWISH HOLIDAY COOKBOOK)

Makes 60 pancakes

Ingredients:

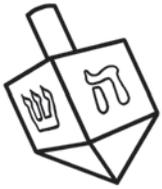
10 medium potatoes
5 small onions
10 tablespoons flour (or matzah meal)
10 eggs
2 1/2 teaspoons salt
2 1/2 teaspoons pepper
10 tablespoons oil for frying

Directions:

1. Scrub and rinse potatoes. Grate them into a bowl. Peel onions and grate them into same bowl.
2. Add the flour, eggs, salt and pepper to the potatoe mixture. Mix well.
3. Heat the oil in the frying pan at medium heat until it sizzles. Drop in heaping tablespoons of the mixture. Flatten each latke with the back of the spoon. Turn over with the spatula. Fry both sides until golden brown.
4. Put two paper towels on the plate. Put the latkes on them to drain for a minute before serving.
5. Serve with applesauce or sour cream.

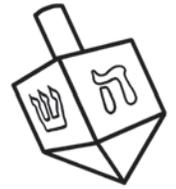


October Men's Club hike



GET READY...

the Chanukah Happening is coming
On Sunday, December 18th



Religious and Nursery schools, Sisterhood and Men's Club, Social Action and Youth Group are all getting together to make it happen again. This year our own Cantor Gordan will kick off the event at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary with a singalong for the whole family. Afterwards there will be crafts for younger and older children and a fun activity for teens. The crafts are free, but be sure to bring some gelt for hot dogs, latkes, and some Chanukah shopping. Books and gifts will be available for sale, and baskets filled with goodies will be raffled off. We encourage you to bring a little extra to donate to HiHi, a project to help the homeless.

This is not a "drop-off" event, so please plan to come and enjoy this "Happening" with your children and friends.

Celebrate with your
Family
at the
HJC Chanukah Happening



Sunday, December 18th
11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Singalong with Cantor Gordan
11:00 in the Sanctuary

Children's Crafts

Teen Fun

Hot dogs, Latkes, Donuts, Drinks
for purchase

Gift & Book Fair and Raffle
Baskets
from 9:00 am

rsvp online on the HJC evite

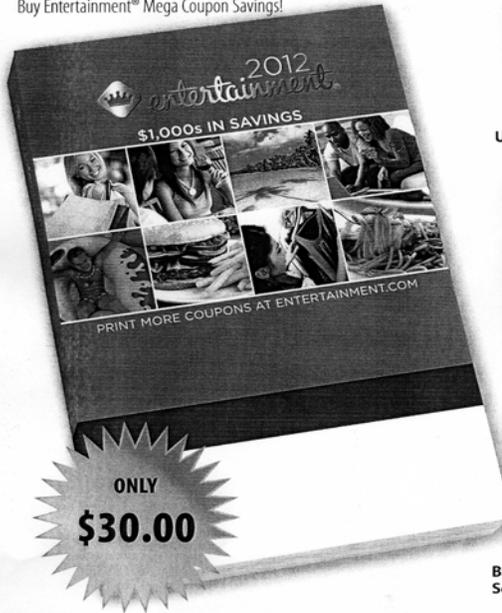


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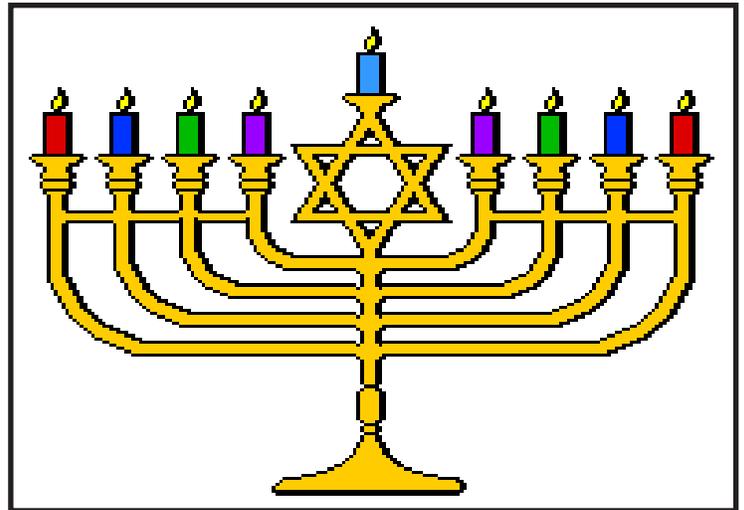
Contact: Arlene Steinberg at 631-271-6339

con't from page 4

of the event on Saturday night, Mike Hirsch, the Director of the Kinnus program, commented to me about what a very special and unusual schul we have and conveyed to me his gratitude for all the people at HJC who allowed the teenagers to have a wonderful time.

It is our long time Youth Chair, Shari Klaire, who deserves the lion's share of credit both for the success of the Kinnus as well as for the continued success of our Youth Program. The hosting of a Kinnus is a major undertaking for any schul; and we agreed to host this at a time when we still had a full-time professional Youth Director. For many years, Shari has assisted our professional youth directors and often stepped in when they were not available. When this June we suddenly found ourselves without a Youth Director, without hesitation, Shari Klaire, on a completely voluntary basis stepped in to fill the void. Shari, with the help of Maxine Fisher, interviewed candidates for the position, and decided to hire Ilana Marcus. Shari has been there to mentor and guide Ilana during this her first job as a Youth Advisor; and despite having a young Youth Advisor and no Youth Director, Shari once again stepped in for the sake of the children; and she and Ilana Marcus took on HJC's hosting of a Kinnus. For those of us who know Shari and are proud to call her our friend, Shari volunteers many hours of her time for HJC and especially for the children of HJC based on nothing more than the love of our schul and the joy of making others, such as the close to 130 teenagers at the Kinnus, happy.

It is watching and experiencing the work of volunteers such as Shari Klaire and Joanne Cohen and all those who helped with the Kinnus which help me as President and the schul as a whole continue to strive to strike the right balance.



Huntington Jewish Center is Participating in
National Donor Sabbath Month
 in Efforts to Increase Awareness for
 Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation in New York

New York, New York - November is designated as National Donor Sabbath Month. HJC's Social Action Committee is working with the New York Organ Donor Network along with numerous houses of worship across the Greater New York metropolitan area to share the powerful message of life-saving donation and transplantation. During the campaign, the Donor Network asks each of us to remember the greatest gift—the gift of life. This is a blessing which many New Yorkers find out of reach, especially those waiting patiently for life-saving transplants. By registering today as organ, eye and tissue donors, individuals provide hope to the more than 112,000 men, women and children currently on the national waiting list. 8, 000 of those individuals waiting are located here in the New York metropolitan area.

For more information about how to get involved, please contact **Miriam Eckstein-Koas** at miribiri@optonline.net. To sign up to be an organ donor today or for more information about donation, please visit [www. SaveLivesNewYork.org](http://www.SaveLivesNewYork.org).

Go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=B8H9wfZbTXc

to see a moving clip about Michael Bovill, a young Long Island man and the gift of life he gave to many grateful recipients.



Kol Nidre In December???



There is still time....



Innovate & Integrate
Creating Community and Connections

5772/2011 Kol Nidre Appeal Jay and Ellen Steinberg, Kol Nidre Chairs

DONOR RECOGNITION CATEGORIES *(check one):*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participant \$1-\$17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor \$18-\$99 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pledger \$100-\$249 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$250-\$499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor \$500-\$799 | <input type="checkbox"/> Grantor \$800-\$1199 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$1200-\$1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$1800-\$2499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$2500-\$3999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Benefactor \$4000/over |

------(Detach and Return to HJC Office)-----

I/We _____ pledge to the Kol Nidre Appeal: \$ _____

Children's Honor Roll Contribution: # Child/ren _____ x \$18 = \$ _____

Our child(ren)'s name(s): _____

Grandchildren's Honor Roll Contribution: # Grandchild/ren _____ x \$18 = \$ _____

Our grandchild(ren)'s name(s): _____

TOTAL PLEDGE \$ _____

My check is enclosed *(This saves HJC 3% of your pledge.)*

Charge my MasterCard /Visa, Acct. # _____ Exp. Date _____

I will pay in _____(7 maximum) equal monthly installments. Charge my
Master Card/Visa, Acct. # _____ Exp. Date _____

Add to my existing payment plan for dues and fees divided equally over the remainder of the plan.

Payment can also be made online at the HJC website, please go to:
<http://www.hjcnyc.org/donations/kol-nidre-appeal/>

Each and every donation is a valuable contribution to our synagogue community.

There's still time
to join a Chavurah!!

HAVE YOU JOINED A CHAVURAH?

We are in the process of organizing several new Chavurot at HJC. Chavurot are groups of 6-8 families (couples and singles) who meet together informally every month or two in participants' homes to discuss topics of Jewish interest. If we have not yet heard from you, please return the yellow forms to the office or email debbier@hjcny.org no later than December 1 to let us know of your interest.



Chavurah Response Form

Please return this form to the HJC Office
by Thursday December 1st

I would like to participate in a Chavurah group.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I would like to have the following people/couples in my group:

Circle which group best represents you:

- Single
- Young family (with nursery school or elementary age children)
- Family with teens
- Couple without children
- Empty-nesters
- Retirees

Innovate & Integrate

Reflections from the Rabbi
Con't from page 1

word for funeral, "levaya", literally means accompanying.) The escorting of the deceased to the next world needs to happen with the appropriate degree of love, dignity, holiness, and respect. It is a solemn responsibility to sum up the entire life of an individual in a eulogy of only ten or fifteen minutes.

I always try to conduct a service that is personal and that honors the person who has died. A meaningful and appropriate funeral is not so much a matter of slides, music, and pictures; rather it is a matter of understanding the unique presence and significance of a person's life so that I can evoke the memory of that person in a way that will help a family to grieve and to remember. If I can help in this way, I am comforted by the knowledge that not only have I honored the deceased, but I have also helped a family begin their journey back toward life.

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- sit where Rosa Parks sat
- listen to blues on Beale Street
- debate the ideas of America
- argue the war on drugs at a synagogue for former addicts
- lay under the stars in Zion National Park
- witness the impact of rock and roll in Cleveland
- debate the 2nd amendment at Columbine High School
- feel the excitement of Las Vegas
- meet other Jewish teens from all over the country
- battle illiteracy in San Francisco
- go to concerts like Bruce Springsteen & Dave Matthews
- see a Broadway play ("In The Heights", "Blueman Group")
- meet your Congressional leaders
- celebrate Friday night Shabbat services at unique synagogues around the country
- visit where 9 teens integrated a school in Little Rock
- laugh at Improv in Chicago
- stand where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream
- pay tribute where his life ended
- bear witness at Ground Zero and Oklahoma City
- lose your breath at the Grand Canyon
- experience the revolution that led to the United States and CREATE YOUR REVOLUTION

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This Month in American Jewish History

George A. Forsyth, General, U.S.A.
Letter to Rabbi Henry Cohen, of Galveston, Texas

Wilkes-Barre, PA
December 27th, 1897

MY DEAR RABBI COHEN :

Pardon my delay in answering your inquiry of December 7th regarding Mr. Samuel Schlesinger, who served under my command in the Western frontier in 1868, and who was with me in my fight with the Sioux Indians in the Arickaree Fork. I was very busy when I got your letter, and it was put aside to answer, but in some way I allowed myself to forget it not intentionally, I assure you, for I have a high admiration of the courage and splendid pluck and endurance of young Schlesinger on the occasion above mentioned. Schlesinger was a mere lad at the time, probably nineteen or twenty years of age. He had never been in action prior to our fight with the Indians, and throughout the whole engagement, which was one of the hardest, if not the very hardest ever fought on the Western plains, he behaved with great courage, cool persistence, and a dogged determination that won my unstinted admiration, as well as that of his comrades, many of whom had seen service throughout the War of the Rebellion on one side or the other. I can accord him no higher praise than that he was the equal in manly courage, steady and persistent devotion to duty, and unswerving and tenacious pluck, of any man in my command.

It is a real pleasure for me to state this fact. When I wrote the account of my fight on the Arickaree Fork for publication, I took especial pains to commend some of my men, but the article was too long and was cut somewhat by the editor. I especially mentioned the pluck and endurance of this young son of Israel, and spoke of him as a worthy descendant of King David.

In the summer of 1895, a short time after I had written the account of my fight that appeared in Harper's Monthly, I was abroad, and while there I had a letter from Mr. Schlesinger, who is a merchant in Cleveland. I am looking forward to meeting him some day with great satisfaction

I am, sir, with sincere respect,

Very truly yours,
GEO. A. FORSYTH.

Note: Rabbi Cohen had read an earlier article in Harpers, by General James B. Fry, which referred to the exploits of an anonymous "little Jew," described as "among the bravest and most gallant" of the soldiers in the gruesome engagement. Cohen scoured the list of the 50 men, and finding only one Jewish-sounding name, wrote to General Forsyth to confirm the story.

Huntington Medical Group, P.C.

Mitchell S. Kramer, M.D., FACOG

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Bulletin News

Submissions for the next bulletin are due by

December 10, 2011

send to:
kwillen@mac.com

Please send all submissions in word documents, jpegs or pdf file formats

If you need help formatting a submission, call Kim Willen at 631-754-5865 or e-mail kwillen@mac.com

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Funeral Director,
Vice President

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Rebecca Kramer (17 yrs. old) cell: 560-1911 home: 385-4317

Jake Kramer (19 yrs. old) home: 385-4317

Shana Ledner (16 yrs. old) cell: 516-236-6687 home: 754-0246

Esti Lodge (17 yrs. old) cell: 759-0943 home: 427-4654

Marisa Pashkin (16 yrs. old) home: 423-6472

Jenny Rosen (16 yrs. old) cell: 514-9061 home: 239-6498

Rina Steinberg (15 yrs old) cell: 255-9808 home: 424-2954

Anna Wertheim cell: 901-7535 home: 549-2602

Taylor Weiss cell: 418-6074 home: 754-2146

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HJC BULLETIN
Huntington Jewish Center
510 Park Avenue
Huntington, N.Y. 11743

Published monthly,
September to June, by the
Huntington Hebrew Congregation
Founded in 1907
510 Park Avenue
Huntington, N.Y. 11743
Tel. 631-427-1089
Fax 631-427-8118
www.HuntingtonJewishCenter.com
www.hjcny.org
www.hjc.org
Bulletin Editor: Kim Willen
kwillen@mac.com

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 227
Huntington, N.Y.



Northport Harbor, January 2011

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