



# HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

INNOVATE & INTEGRATE - CREATING COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

Nisan/Iyar 5772

April 2012

## Embracing the Haredim

By Rabbi Neil Kurshan



Some of the most embarrassing news stories about the Jewish community in recent months have emerged from the town of Beit Shemesh located approximately a half hour from Jerusalem. Here are just two of

these stories although there are similar stories from many communities in Israel. On her first day of National Service (the Israeli alternative to military service) Oriya Feldman, an Orthodox woman, boarded an Egged bus in Beit Shemesh. She turned on her MP3 player so that she would not fall asleep and miss her stop. She was lost in her music when she was jolted by the first kick and then by additional blows raining down upon her. Standing over her and assaulting her were four Haredim (ultra-Orthodox Jews—literally those who fear or tremble). They struck her, spat on her, and threw at her whatever was in their hands. Her “crime” was that she had mistakenly boarded a mehadrin bus with separate seating for men and women and had sat unknowingly in the men’s section in the front of the bus instead of moving to the back of the bus with the other women.

A second incident involved eight year old Na’ama Margolis, the daughter of a modern Orthodox family that had made aliya from the United States to Beit Shemesh. A news story on Israeli television described Na’ama’s paralyzing fear of walking the three hundred yards from her home to her elementary school. Apparently she was afraid that the Haredi men protesting against immodest dress outside her school would hurt her. In the news video her mother can be seen encouraging Na’ama to walk the short way to school punctuated by the girl’s

whimpers of “No, no”.

These stories and similar ones play into our stereotype of the Haredim as a population that wants nothing to do with the modern world and that is willing to engage in violence to stop the tide of modernity. In Israel there is a very real fear of a clash of cultures and even of a civil war which no one can win. To the outside world it appears that we are a Jewish people divided, and it is not so far-fetched to ask whether anyone from the outside needs to attack us when are fighting among ourselves.

The “problem” of the Haredim will not disappear. There are close to one million Haredim in Israel, and the Haredi community has a high fertility rate – approximately eight children per family—the younger the age cohort the higher the percentage of Haredim. In 2006 one quarter of the births in Israel were to Haredi families, and Israel’s Central Bureau of Statistics estimates that within the next fifty years one third of Israel’s population will be Haredi. Israel cannot continue to support a population that is largely impoverished, unemployed, and which does not serve in the army.

Until recently the problem of the clash of the Haredi and non-Haredi populations has been under the radar here, but in Israel it is viewed as one of the most serious social issues facing the country. When I was recently in Israel at the end of February, I had the opportunity to attend a session under the auspices of the Jewish Agency for Israel about the challenges posed by the Haredi population. The program was organized by a group called Makom, one of the most innovative educational organizations in Israel today.

The most interesting part of the program was the grouping of us by tables with a wide variety of session participants in

## Holocaust Memorial Service



The annual Huntington Memorial Service will be held at:

**Temple Beth El (660 Park Ave.)**  
Wednesday evening, April 18th  
at 7:30 pm.

The speaker will be Dr. Sylvain Bromberger, a Holocaust survivor and professor emeritus of the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy at MIT. The service is co-sponsored by HJC with Temple Beth El and Kehillat Shalom.

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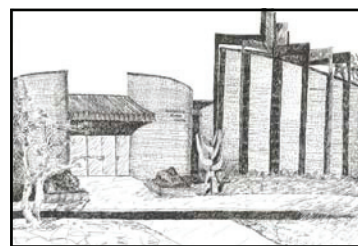
order to share our reactions to the presentations about the Haredim. Among those at my table was a mother whose daughter had been spat upon in Beit Shemesh; a Haredi woman who lives in Sefat and who works with Haredi families at risk; two American students spending their gap year at an Israeli yeshiva; a volunteer leader of the Federation in New York; the chief aide to Natan Sharansky, a member of the Knesset; and myself as a Conservative rabbi. It was quite remarkable that all of us were at the same table in dialogue with one another.

I came away from the session disabused of many of my assumptions about the Haredi population. First it was interesting to speak with the Haredi woman at our table. She clearly came from a different world—she was not willing to sit next to me because of my gender and would only sit between two women. However, the family problems she deals with in her work in the Haredi community are very similar to the family issues that any of us face. More generally I learned from the presenters at the session that increasing numbers of the Haredi population are in the Israeli work force—42% of the men and 55% of the women. The stereotype of a Haredi family subsisting on government handouts while the father is studying Torah all day and his wife is at home taking care of the children is no longer true. Within the Haredi community many have concluded that the way out of poverty is through work, and the number of Haredim in the work force continues to rise.

More and more of the Haredim are turning to higher education in professional training programs because education is an avenue into the work force. A decade ago there were only a few hundred Haredim in Israeli institutions of higher learning, but today those numbers have risen to 6000 with more than 1000 studying to become engineers. Haredim have even begun to serve in the Israeli Defense Forces with 200 active duty soldiers and 1200 Haredim in alternative national service.

Within these trends are the seeds of a future in which the Haredi and non-Haredi population can live together. Integration into the work force, education, and the army break down the stereotypes and distrust on both sides of the cultural divide. I came away from the session feeling that while it is certainly inadvisable and probably impossible to coerce the integration of the Haredim into Israeli society, government policies should support those elements in the Haredi population that are seeking greater integration with the broader society. Here at home those of us who support Israel should be careful that the money we give supports those programs that work toward integration rather than separation. Not all the Haredim will seek integration with the broader society, but those who want to remain separate should pay their own way and not be assisted by us or the Israeli government.

As Jews in an increasingly global community, we are a very small group that cannot afford to fight amidst ourselves. We will survive as a healthy and strong community only insofar as we are able to embrace all Jews, even those who are the most different from us. I came away from my conversations in Israel feeling that while we will never have the same worldview as the Haredim, there are ways we can live together in mutual respect and contributing in common toward the future of the Jewish people.



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425-0525

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Greeters.....	Maxine Fisher
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Sisterhood.....	Sue Lefkowitz
Social Action.....	Janet Kushnick & Marilyn Klein
Special Arrangements.....	Vered Cole & David Walsdorf
Sunshine.....	Kim Willen
Theater Development.....	Arthur Perler
Technology.....	Jeff Stark
Tree of Life.....	Tom Rosen
UJA.....	Scott Inger
Youth.....	Shari Klair
Youth Advisor.....	Elana Marcus



# April 2012

## 5772 Nisan/Iyar



Sun	Mon	Tue	INTERMEDIATE	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:45 Morning Minyan <i>MC Speaker</i> 9:30am  Gan- Bet Seders USY/Kad	<b>2</b>   Yoga	<b>3</b> ECC Pass- over Seder 10am  RS Seders  Chavarim 6:15 Hebrew Chug 6:30	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>   No  Search for Chametz	<b>6</b>  ECC  Siyyum Breakfast 8am <i>Services 7am</i> <i>Services 6pm</i> <b>FIRST SEDER</b>	<b>7</b>  <i>Services 9:30am</i> <b>PASSOVER</b>
<b>8</b>  No Religious School 8:45 Morning Minyan <i>Services 9:30am</i> <b>PASSOVER</b>	<b>9</b>  Sisterhood Board Meeting 8pm  <b>INTERMEDIATE DAY</b>	<b>10</b>  No ECC ~ Spring Break  <b>INTERMEDIATE DAY</b>	<b>11</b>   <b>INTERMEDIATE DAY</b>	<b>12</b>   <i>Services 7pm</i> <b>INTERMEDIATE DAY</b>	<b>13</b>   <i>Services 9:30am</i> <i>Services 7pm</i> <b>PASSOVER</b>	<b>14</b>  <i>Services 9:30am</i> <b>PASSOVER</b> Yizkor
<b>15</b>  No Religious School	<b>16</b>   Yoga	<b>17</b> Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 10:30am	<b>18</b> Social Action 2pm  <i>Yom Hashoah Evening service 7:30pm - Temple Beth El</i>	<b>19</b>   RUMMAGE DROP OFF  <i>Yom Hashoah</i>	<b>20</b> Young Women's Torah Study 10:30am  Shabbat Services 6pm	<b>21</b> Vav Shabbaton 10:00am  <i>Shemini</i>
<b>22</b> Hey Class - Israel Workshop 9:30am  USY  RUMMAGE SALE <b>ROSH CHODESH</b>	<b>23</b> ECC Parent Assoc. 9:45am <i>Jewish Public Affairs 8pm</i>  <b>ROSH CHODESH</b>	<b>24</b>   Chavarim 6:15 Hebrew Chug 6:30	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  ECC Celebration Yom Ha'atzma'ut  YOM HA'ATZMA'UT	<b>27</b> Family PJ Service & Dinner 5:30pm  Shabbat Services 8pm	<b>28</b> <i>Bat Mitzvah Jordan Biener</i>  <i>Tazria-Metzora</i>
<b>29</b> Vav/Mitzvah Team trip to Holocaust Museum  USY/Kad	<b>30</b>   Yoga					



# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Mitch Pashkin

## STAY TUNED...

Will be back next month.

**Thank you to all who helped make  
our Hamantashen Sale a success**



Josh Bailin  
Howard Baker  
Gabby Berman  
Lauren Chait  
Lexi Cooper  
Barry Feigenbaum  
Donna Fleiss  
Sarah Gemunder  
Wendy Glassman  
Roz Haber  
Bill Kampel  
Hannah Kampel  
Justin Lefkowitz

Natalie Lefkowitz  
Phyllis Levy  
Andrea Morris  
Noah Morris  
Alexa Rind  
Tom Rosen  
Vicki Rosen  
Robin Rudolf  
Sarah Saunders  
Carol Solomon  
Eric Solomon  
Sophia Wetanson

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to thank my wonderful husband David for not only schlepping and purchasing all the ingredients but also allowing me the time to come in and bake ....

Another thank you goes to Kevin of Maureen's Kitchen for donating 15 dozen eggs.

Sue Lefkowitz

# Jewish Public Affairs Forum

**Monday, April 23  
8:00 PM**

The next session of the JPAF with Ken Bob will be held Monday evening, April 23 at 8:00 pm in the Family Life Center. The topic of the session is ***"Synagogue and State in Israel: Tensions and Trends Regarding the Role of Religion in Israeli Society"***. The session will examine the evolving relationship of religion and state in Israel, the status of the non-Orthodox movements, and the recent culture clashes in Beit Shemesh between the Haredi and non-Haredi populations.

Please RSVP to the office at [debbier@hjcny.org](mailto:debbier@hjcny.org).



## **New Outreach Garden in the Works**



Excited to announce HJC is participating with other congregations in the area to plant an outreach garden on our property. The purpose is to grow vegetables for our local food pantry as less than 10% of food donated is fresh produce. It will also have many other benefits for our Nursery and Religious school students and others in the congregation interesting in caring and connecting with the environment in this way.

Anyone interested in being a part of this project can call Joanne Cohn at 631-271-2923  
Or e-mail me at [jomulberg@aol.com](mailto:jomulberg@aol.com) for more information.

# HJC Community News

## Welcome to our New Members

Michael Richter & Melissa Diamond of Huntington and their daughter; Eva, age 2½  
John & Michelle Shallat of Dix Hills and their children; Zachary, age 8; Sean age 5½; and Jordan, age 3½

## We extend our sincere condolences to...

Janet Ganes on the death of her father, Jack Lust  
Ellen Kahn on the death of her husband, our congregant,  
Richard Kahn

## Yashir Kochach to this month's Bat Mitzvah Jordan Samantha Biener

daughter of Judy and Eric Biener



Jordan is a High Honor Roll student at J.T. Finley Middle School and has been a student at HJC since she was three-years old. She plays a mean trombone and is a member, for the second year, of the Nassau-Suffolk Honor Band.

She loves participating in her school plays and has spent four wonderful summers at Camp Westmont. She's smart and funny, sensitive and mature, independent and brave. Mom and Dad are proud and amazed each and every day by the

poised and beautiful person Jordan is - both inside and out.

## MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Each year at Selichot, we dedicate plaques in memory of our departed loved ones. This year, Selichot falls on Saturday evening, September 8th. If you are interested in purchasing a plaque, orders are now being taken in the synagogue office. The plaques are \$450 and the deadline to order is June 1.



## ATTENTION ALL CONGREGANTS:

We are looking for congregants who are interested in serving on the 2012-2013 **HJC Board of Trustees**. Board members serve an important role as part of the management and administrative body which oversees and leads our synagogue. The Board determines policy and manages the synagogue's assets and personnel on behalf of our entire membership. This is a meaningful way to develop your own strengths as a Jewish leader and contribute your talents to the congregation. If you are interested, or know of someone in the congregation who may be interested in serving on the **Board of Trustees**,

please contact **Cheryl Silberman**, Chair of the Nominating Committee  
at [clk1623@gmail.com](mailto:clk1623@gmail.com)

Nominations must be presented to the Nominating Committee no later than 15 days before the election of Officers and Trustees at the Congregational meeting, which will take place on **May 21st, 2012**, pursuant to the terms set forth in the HJC bylaws.



## The Bar/Bat Mitzvah by Cantor Israel Gordan



As the Cantor of the Huntington Jewish Center, it is my responsibility to train each and every child in preparation for the public commemoration of his/her becoming a Bar or Bat-Mitzvah. I meet with each child for about 25 minutes each week in the months leading up to the celebration. I believe I am extremely fortunate to be able to do this, but I also believe it represents the best and worst part of my job.

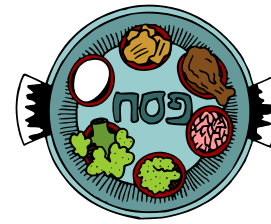
The best part about it is the kids themselves. Twelve year-olds approaching their Bar-Mitzvahs are an extremely interesting group. In case you've forgotten, middle school can be a lot of fun, but it can also be extremely stressful and difficult. Each week, I get 25 minutes one-on-one with the children to not only go over the Hebrew, trop, and tunes of everything they will be doing at their ceremonies, but also to talk and check-in. I get to hear how things are going at school, what they are doing at religious school, what kind of outside activities they are involved with, what's happening with their friends and family, and anything else that may come up.

I also get to see where each kid's talents and interests lie. Some really excel at the Hebrew and/or the music part of the preparation. Some are interested more in learning what everything is about and what they are saying in Hebrew. And some just enjoy spending time in my office with an adult who is not a teacher, parent, or coach. But more than that, I enjoy spending the time with each child for the religious and musical educational aspects, as well as the interpersonal time. It turns out to be a lot of fun, and even in the short time that I have been at the HJC, I've made a lot of great friends in the students and their families.

The worst part about it, however, is that after all of that time preparing, once the Bar or Bat Mitzvah has taken place, it is over. After months and months of leading up to the big day, it has come and gone before the child knows it. And while I may see kids after their Bar or Bat Mitzvahs, it is certainly not once a week, every week, for 25 minutes. That quality time is gone and it's on to the next student who is coming up in the process. Luckily we have already had several former students return to lead Mussaf and read Torah. I want to make sure that kids and parents alike now that my door is always open and I look forward to more opportunities to connect with the high school students and their families in the months and years ahead.

I have already finished preparing the students who began their process before I started, and by the time this article is published, the first student I began with will already be done as well. There are certainly plenty of set-backs and frustrations along the way, but so far, this has been an extremely rewarding part of my job, and I hope it has been a positive one for the students as well.

I truly believe we are a lucky community blessed with an incredible amount of extremely talented, interesting, wonderful children. Although it is hard to believe, the Bar or Bat Mitzvah ceremony marks their entrance into Jewish adulthood. I hope these kids will grow up to not only be wonderful adults, but great Jewish leaders of the next generation in our community, or wherever life may take them.



## Schedule of Passover Services 5772 - 2012

Friday, April 6.....7:00 a.m.

*Fast of the First Born and Siyyum*

An early morning service in the Lief Chapel will be followed by a study session and a light meal sponsored by the Men's Club to break the fast. All first born and others are welcome.

Friday, April 6 .....6:00 p.m.

*Shabbat Services & First Seder*

Candle Lighting.....7:03 p.m.

*Shabbat*

April 7.....9:30 a.m.

*Shacharit, First Day*

Candle Lighting.....7:42 p.m.

Sunday, April 8.....9:30 a.m.

*Shacharit, Second Day*

Thursday, April 12.....7:00 p.m.

*Mincha, Maariv, Seventh Day*

Candle Lighting.....7:08 p.m.

Friday, April 13.....9:30 a.m.

*Shacharit, Seventh Day*

*We will honor our Shabbat and Weekly Torah Readers during services*

Friday, April 13.....7:00 p.m.

*Mincha, Maariv, Eighth Day*

Candle Lighting.....7:09 p.m.

Shabbat, April 14.....9:30 a.m.

*Shacharit, Yizkor, Eighth Day*

Yizkor will be recited during services on the Eighth Day. Members of the Congregation will chant Shir HaShirim (Song of Songs) on Shabbat morning, April 14<sup>th</sup> (All times reflect Daylight Savings Time)

### SIYYUM - THE FAST OF THE FIRST BORN

The Torah relates that the first born of the Israelites was spared from the last plague, which was visited upon the Egyptians. As an act of gratitude and as a means of reenacting a great event of ancient history, the custom has arisen to have all the Bechorim (first born) fast on Erev Pesach. As a substitution for this fast they may participate in some sacred study in the synagogue on the morning before Pesach. Thus the fast is obviated while the purpose is enhanced. There will be a service and study session Friday morning, April 6th beginning at 7:00 AM. The Men's Club will sponsor a light breakfast following services.





## Sisterhood News by Sue Lefkowitz

### Sisterhood sponsored Kallah earns accolades

Representatives from many colleges participated in this Koach Kallah, the theme of which was "Wandering in the World of Jewish Identity." Students arrived at Hillel at Boston University on Thursday afternoon and departed on Sunday afternoon. A Conservative Jewish presence on campus was validated and reinforced. The time between arrival and departure was filled with fun, eating, learning and making friends. Rabbi Elyse Winick, the Director of Koach, and the Koach Steering Committee planned an incredible weekend with all services being led by the students. The "ruach" that was generated by 144 students was amazing. The only thing missing was time to sleep. The spirit at services that emanated had not been experienced by a large number of attendees since they were in USY or at Ramah and students expressed how much spending Shabbat together meant to them.

\*\*\*\*\*

A most successful "**Taste of Passover**" was held on March 29th. In attendance were many of our Sisterhood members as well as other members of the congregation. Everyone enjoyed the food, the presentation and sharing favorite family recipes with one another. We extend many thanks to the committee for organizing this function.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Note the dates for upcoming events:

#### **April 22, 2012 – Rummage Sale**

Drop off on April 19th and April 20th

**April 27, 2012** – we will celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut with a film, commemorating Israel's declaration of Independence. Further information to follow.

**May 7, 2012** –Carol Baker will lead the discussion of the book "The Invisible Bridge" by Julie Ominger. Start reading now so that you can participate.

**May 23, 2012**– "Woman of Achievement" Gala Dinner, at the Dix Hills Jewish Center. Syd Schlesinger has been designated as our honoree. Invitations will be forthcoming shortly and your presence will help to make this a memorable occasion.

# sisterhood

## HJC's 7th Grade Students Hard at Work



Many of the Mitzvah Team students and Solomon Schechter Day School 7th Graders worked hard on Sunday, February 12 as part of HJC's Lamed Vavnik Project making packages for Lone Soldiers in Israel and helping out at the UJA Huntington Community Concert held at HJC.



Honorees Shari Klaire and Paul Greenstein at the Community Concert in February.



Each week, millions of Americans express a sigh of relief when Friday arrives. It marks the end of a busy week and the hope of having reflecting and leisure time is paramount. Friday at HJC's ECC is no different. We help the children understand the week's end by setting a different stage on Friday. It is our chance to emphasize the meaning and beauty of Shabbat.

As the children enter the class on Friday, they hear Shabbat music playing instead of Raffi and other early childhood singers. The curriculum which is usually frenetic and exciting from Monday through Thursday becomes quieter and more child-directed as teachers take the cue from the children and follow their lead throughout the day.

At 9:45am, the children in the three and four year old classes are marched down to the Leif Chapel to be greeted by Cantor Gordan. Cantor Gordan begins the Shabbat service by singing a Hebrew song that welcomes the children and invited parent guests to the service. He then requests to have the children who are the selected "Aba's and Ima's" for the week with their families come up to the bema so that they can light the Shabbat candles, bless the wine and say the prayer for the challah. We then let the specially selected children for the Shabbat service hold a stuffed Torah and they lead everyone in the Leif Chapel on a joyous march to music around the sanctuary. Teachers, Maxine our religious school director, the Rabbi, and I take turns to read a relevant story for the week during the service.

At 10:00 am in the two year old classes, clean up time begins so that children can start setting the table. Great care is taken to make the table look beautiful. Children put a white lace cloth down first. Sometimes, the teachers put white paper across the table and the children draw pictures to beautify it. Flowers, Shabbat candles, and the Kiddush cup follow next. Teachers read a Shabbat story before the children get a chance to sing songs that welcome in our model Shabbat.

I can still remember when my younger daughter Jodi was in a Jewish Synagogue program. Her pre-school invited us to share Shabbat with the class. Jodi's emotional response in sharing something so special with me precipitated my desire to involve parents at HJC in our Shabbat happenings. Many of the parents who come through the years have participated in a wide variety of activities with the class during this Shabbat experience. For example, parents have taught children to bake challah, they've played guitars and clarinets while the children sang, doctors have shown the children some of the instruments they use during their day, etc. There have been science experiments, art projects, and cooked treats made.

Each week in the four-year-old classes, we give out a Shabbat basket to one family. Our basket is filled with all the items one needs to perform a meaningful Friday Shabbat. There's a Kiddush cup, Kedem wine, a song sheet with songs the children can teach their parents, and a page of blessings the parents can repeat with their children. We include a Shabbat story book for the children so that parents who

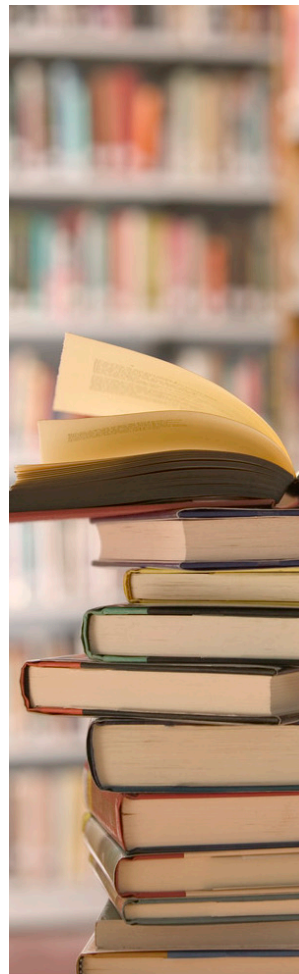
might need more information about this Jewish ritual can learn about it. In addition, we send home a composition book so the child can dictate what their home family Shabbat experience is like. Parents are requested to take pictures of their family during this experience and return them as well in the composition book we gave them.

Here are two of the responses we got in previous years from the wonderful Shabbat experience. "While we don't normally celebrate Shabbat in our home, the kind gesture of the basket gave us reason to celebrate a meal together as a family. Taking the basket home seemed almost a rite of passage for Annie. She immediately opened it when we got home and began to tell me about each item with such enthusiasm. For dinner that night we made Annie's favorite meal—pasta with meat sauce. We ate in the dining room and dressed our table with the candles and the flowers. We talked about our family both near and far and for the first time in a long time everyone sat, no one needed more to drink or to use the bathroom and for what families take for granted, we embraced for one special evening. Thank you for the gift of the basket."

"Justyn was so thrilled to bring home the Shabbat basket. He took out the flowers, the Kiddush cup and candles and set everything up. He was also excited to use our Kiddush cup from his great grandmother. (It had been used at our wedding, his blessing and his sisters' namings.) Justyn said the blessings and shared his favorite songs that he learned in school. Justin's dad came home later that evening and Justyn wanted to share his special basket. So we re-lit the candles and sang songs together. We all ate challah, drank apple and grape juice together. Our family enjoyed sharing this special basket and wish everyone after us a beautiful evening."

Rituals are important in the lives of young children. They add depth

con't on page 12



## ***Spring Book Discussion and light lunch***

**Monday, May 7 11:30 am**

**The Invisible Bridge  
By Jolie Orringer**

This is a compelling story of a young architect student arriving in Paris just before the onset of the second world war. His promise to deliver a letter begins a series of complication. He learns of a secret that will change his life forever.

Carol Baker will lead the discussion. The book is readily available. Please join us among old friends and chance to make new ones.

For any questions Syd Schlesinger  
Syd519@gmail.com, 631 261 2330  
Please respond no later than May 1



## Welcoming Partners in Caring to Huntington Jewish Center



Under the auspices of Partners in Caring, a UJA funded program bringing together F·E·G·S Long Island (the region's Jewish human services agency) and synagogues, we have an F·E·G·S social worker, Barbara Sheryll, LMSW as part of our Huntington Jewish Center staff on a part-time basis.

This partnership strengthens our connection to both F·E·G·S and the Long Island community. Partners in Caring will bring educational programs and workshops, volunteer opportunities and projects, and free and confidential short-term individual counseling and referral services to our synagogue. For more information or to speak to a social worker:

please contact Barbara Sheryll, LMSW at (631) 462 - 9800 ext. 251  
by e-mail [bsheryll@optonline.net](mailto:bsheryll@optonline.net)

You can also contact HJC's PIC liason, Janet Zimmerman, at 631-491-4084  
or at [ladyzim@optonline.net](mailto:ladyzim@optonline.net)

UJA-Federation of New York's  
**Partners in Caring**

## HJC hosts Huntington Community Concert with Sam Glaser

UJA-Federation of New York sponsored the Huntington Community Concert featuring Sam Glaser on February 12. His performance of contemporary, upbeat Jewish music was fantastic and attended by hundreds in the local community. The concert honored congregants Shari Klaire and Paul Greenstein.



# Donations

צדקה

## GENERAL FUND

Susan Lax in memory of Jack Kleiman at yahrzeit.  
Fran & Fred Weiss in memory of Irving Wax, father of Mark Wax.  
Carol & Marshall Adelstein in memory of Anna Adelstein at yahrzeit.  
Robert Mesard in memory of Lillian Mesard at yahrzeit.  
Paul Cohen in memory of Abraham Cohen at yahrzeit.  
Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Stephen Furst, husband of Ruth Furst.  
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Stephen Furst, husband of Ruth Furst.  
Arnold Schwartz in memory of Daniel Schwartz at yahrzeit.  
Leonard Kramer in memory of Ethel Kramer at yahrzeit.  
Howard Dubow in memory of Rose Sirulnick at yahrzeit.  
H. William Silfen in memory of Marilyn Silfen at yahrzeit.  
Samuel Messing in memory of Mary Messing at yahrzeit.  
Jack Rubin in memory of Gilla Rubin at yahrzeit.  
Jack Rubin in memory of Mordecai Rubin at yahrzeit.  
Robert Bookbinder in memory of Pearl Bookbinder at yahrzeit.  
Robert Bookbinder in memory of Natalie Bookbinder at yahrzeit.  
Richard Klee in memory of Miriam Klee at yahrzeit.  
Ethel Schwartz Bock in memory of William Schwartz at yahrzeit.  
Rosalind Shaffer in memory of Abraham Sandlofer at yahrzeit.  
Rosalind Shaffer in memory of Anna Shaffer at yahrzeit.  
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Harriet Seidman at yahrzeit.  
Marlene & Leonard Hummel in memory of Robert Ross at yahrzeit.  
Peter Birzon in memory of Irving Birzon at yahrzeit.  
Arlene Alcosser in memory of Ben Black at yahrzeit.  
Barry Specht in memory of Joseph Specht at yahrzeit.  
Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in memory of Rosalyn Kuppersmith at yahrzeit.  
Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in memory of Seymour Kuppersmith at yahrzeit.  
Renda & Ken Rosenblatt in memory of Babette Rosenblatt at yahrzeit.  
Myra & Marvin Marsh in memory of Herbert Marsh at yahrzeit.  
Alvin Wichard in memory of Gary Wichard at yahrzeit.  
Alvin Wichard in memory of Sonia Wichard at yahrzeit.  
Gwen Goldstein in memory of Sadie Paternostro at yahrzeit.  
Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Hannah, daughter of Patricia & Dan Schoeffler.  
Diane & Steven Block in memory of Myron Schwartz at yahrzeit.  
Sandra Goldman in memory of Richard Goldman at yahrzeit.  
Amy Marcus in memory of Norma Gordon at yahrzeit.  
Mitchell Reiver in memory of Paula Reiver at yahrzeit.  
Burton Epstein in memory of Samuel Epstein at yahrzeit.  
Vered & Jack Cole in memory of Meir Levanon at yahrzeit.  
Arthur Perler in memory of Shirley Perler at yahrzeit.  
Stephen Holbreich in memory of Mortimer Holbreich at yahrzeit.  
Anita Gelberg in memory of Ray Stecker at yahrzeit.  
Risa Gold in memory of Robert Greco at yahrzeit.  
Ellen Kahn in memory of Abraham Levy at yahrzeit.

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ruth Furst  
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Cheryl & Peter Berman with thanks & appreciation to Rabbi Kurshan.

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Marjorie Maltin in memory of Joseph Solomon at yahrzeit.  
Cheryl & Peter Berman with thanks & appreciation to Cantor Gordan.

## DAILY MINYAN FUND

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Ely Rencoff at yahrzeit.  
Bea Pedowicz in memory of Martin Rencoff at yahrzeit.  
Selma Greenstein in memory of Herman Greenstein at yahrzeit.  
Selma Greenstein in memory of Max Bass at yahrzeit.

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Judith & Lester Fox in honor of Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz receiving her Doctor of Philosophy from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.  
Judith & Lester Fox in memory of Al Gingold.

## DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Susan & David Lefkowitz in honor of the birth of Rebecca Ariella, daughter of Michelle & Michael Behr.  
Ruth Wies in memory of Stanley Cohen at yahrzeit.  
Joan & Norman Mattisinko in honor of Shari Klaire & Paul Greenstein for their contribution to our youth.  
Shirley Vilinsky in honor of Alan Orloff for sponsoring the March Minyan breakfast.  
June Reiner in memory of Florence Reiner at yahrzeit.  
Elie Siperowitz with thanks to Sue Lefkowitz for her thoughtfulness.

## TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND

Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in honor of Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz receiving her Doctor of Philosophy from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem



# Happier



## HJC Enjoys Kosher Throwdown

The HJC Throwdown was a rousing success including the cook-off and matzoh ball eating contest. Team Chewish, consisting of Shari Klaire, Carin and Kenny Meyer and Karann Pashkin were declared the winners of the competition. A fun night was had by all.







Students speak with Sam Glaser at Community Concert in February.

Nursery School News, Con't from page 8

and meaning to family life and are etched in our memories long after we have passed through childhood. We feel exceptionally proud of our Shabbat program in our pre-school and hope that the feeling the children have at the end of each week here will long be remembered by them.



JEWSH BEDTIME STORIES & SONGS FOR FAMILIES

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## SPREAD THE NEWS... INVITE YOUR FRIENDS



There are so many worthwhile activities happening at the HJC. We encourage you to use social media to spread the word about events which you plan to go to, or events which you'd like your friends to consider attending. Since many events are open to non-members as well, let's all make an effort to inform the community-at-large about the great things going on at our synagogue.

From our website, [www.hjcny.org](http://www.hjcny.org), click on any activity or event listed under the "LATEST NEWS" heading. The descriptive page has easy-to-use buttons to share the event through Facebook, Twitter, or Google +1. Let's promote the attendance and active involvement of our members, and for open events, non-members, through this simple social media connection.

## Kol Dichfin 2012 "Let All Who Are Hungry Come and Eat"



Conservative congregations around the world including the Huntington Jewish Center are providing seder meals to alumni of Conservative Movement programs, especially our younger alumni, college students, young marrieds, military, etc., either at the synagogue or at the home of a congregant. If you have children or grandchildren away from home, they can locate participating congregations at <http://projectreconnect.org/passover>.

Also if you would be willing to host someone for a Seder, please contact Rabbi Kurshan at [hjcrabbi@optonline.net](mailto:hjcrabbi@optonline.net)

# The Ben Tasman Library at HJC

We can see the changes and the best is yet to come



Thanks for so much support from so many people in and outside our synagogue community. If you peek inside the Ben Tasman library, progress is being made, the wheels are turning, and you can see the bright and welcoming place it will be.

Sisterhood's generosity has given us beautiful new carpeting, a wonderful computer program, which has brought us into the 21st century, and some nitty gritty supplies needed to start the library again.

Bob Bozzone, a Centerport neighbor, donated two reconditioned computers loaded with appropriate software, and one printer to our library - absolutely essential equipment for a modern library.

Our stalwart congregation volunteers have stuck with it from sneezing through the dust, going through the wet and moldy books in a room that was always damp and dismal, and now is in the process of cataloguing every book before it is placed on the shelves.

Our custodial staff has been right there with us removing moldy books, which could not be saved (there were far too many of these), carting books back and forth to different locations and doing everything possible to protect the remaining books.

Rabbi Kurshan has taken the time to go through all the books to determine which to keep. The office staff has been there for moral support. We need YOUR support, time, money, whatever you can give.

Thank you everyone,

Syd Schlesinger

**Come Visit Us**



Congregants work in the new library.

# Ingber '15: Since when has the two-state solution become passe?

Opinion Piece from The Brown Daily Herald  
by Zach Ingber

For the past 20 years, there has been a consensus on a starting point to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: "Two states for two peoples" is something that experts including government officials, academics and journalists have espoused. The Jewish people deserve a sovereign nation as do the Palestinians. Yet there is a growing movement among Israel's detractors and campus pro-Palestinian movements for a "one-state solution" in the region.

The proposed state would be a singular nation with rights for all citizens. There would be no religious identity and no distinguishing characteristics of the country. While this proposal sounds fair and just in theory, this would mean the end of Israel as a Jewish state — and it seems that most pro-Palestinian movements are okay with this. But this new bi-national state would look no different than Belgium or Switzerland. Israel was created in the wake of the greatest tragedy in human history because there were only Belgians and Switzers. The Jewish aspect of Israel is the fundamental component of Israel as a Jewish homeland.

Unfortunately, the recognition of the other side's sovereignty is unbalanced. I currently serve as Vice President of Brown Students for Israel — which is often accused of being Brown's most right-wing pro-Israel group — and I can confidently say BSI endorses and supports a two-state solution. BSI sponsored a lecture earlier in the year by Barney Frank, a very liberal former member of congress, who preached a two-state solution as the only logical way to move forward. In fact, if BSI were to bring a speaker who advocated for a greater Israel from the Mediterranean Sea to the Jordan River, it would be dismissed as right-wing nonsense.

Yet, as part of "Israel Apartheid Week," Brown Students for Justice in Palestine brought Ali Abunimah, a scholar who supports the creation of just one state in the region. The publications on his website, "Electronic Intifada" — which conjures nasty memories of buses exploding and suicide bombers in Israel — advocate a state without a religious identity. That means no Israel as a Jewish state. Fundamentally, as evidenced by Abunimah, SJP does not respect Jewish sovereignty. I do not quite understand why there is no reciprocity between Students for Israel and Students for Justice in Palestine. BSI has been vocal about Palestinian sovereignty, but we get no love in return.

"Israel Apartheid Week" is not about the security barrier, nor is it about Israeli settlements. SJP's protests are not about human rights violations, nor are they about Israeli land grabbing. These small policy issues are a diversion from their fundamental objection to a Jewish state. Abunimah's tweet, "Isn't it time for a popular Palestinian revolution in the form of a third intifada?" further illuminates his opposition to Israel and is perhaps a temptation to violence.

I fundamentally respect the rights of others to have an opinion, and I am glad SJP has the right to organize. But please don't mask your denial of the right to a Jewish state under the guise of "end the occupation." That is simply deceptive.

If you want to complain about ethno-religious privilege — what SJP is calling "Apartheid" — I suggest you focus on Saudi Arabia, where non-Muslims cannot enter Mecca, or Egypt, where Coptic Christians have been persecuted for decades. The only time Jerusalem's holy sites have been open to all religions has been under Jewish rule. Until 1967, Jews did not have access to the Western Wall, the holiest site in Judaism, which was under Jordanian control.

The other day on the Main Green I had a student in SJP tell me she feels that what has been done to the Palestinians greatly exceeds the pain caused to Israeli citizens. I wish she would tell that to the remainder of the Fogel family, whose close relatives were murdered around one year ago by two Palestinian militants in the Israeli town of Itamar. Yes, they lived in a settlement, but that is hardly justification for such brutal action.

When people ask me why there is a security barrier, or "Apartheid Wall," as SJP likes to call it, separating the West Bank from Israel proper, I struggle to find the words to explain the answer effectively. Surprisingly, I found my answer on Wikipedia. Looking for the story surrounding the death of the Fogels, I searched "Itamar attack," and it brought me to a page. I was struck by the words "not to be confused with 'Itamar attack (2002).'" In 2002, Palestinian militants murdered a mother and her three sons in Itamar. The fact that there exists two Wikipedia pages entitled "Itamar attack" is why a security barrier stands today. Protecting your citizens is hardly apartheid. Let us continue to have an open dialogue about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but I urge both sides to respect the sovereignty of the other. It is only then that discourse will move forward in the most productive way possible.







## This Month in American Jewish History

John Tyler

*President of the United States of America*

To Jacob Ezekiel, April 19, 1847

**SIR:** I beg you to be perfectly assured, that in using the language in my recommendation to the people of the United States to observe the 4th day of May as a day for religious exercises, in consequence of the bereavement which the country has sustained in the death of the late President, I designed in nothing to exclude any portion of my fellow citizens from a cordial union in the solemnities of that occasion. In speaking in the first paragraph of the duties of Christian people, I meant in no way to imply that similar duties should not be performed by all mankind. The last paragraph is an invitation to all and excludes the idea of any special invocation. For the people of whom you are one, I can feel none other than profound respect.

The wisdom which flowed from the lips of your prophets has in times past, and will continue for all time to come, to be a refreshing fountain of moral instruction to mankind - which Holy records bear witness of Divine favors and protections of the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, God of the Christians and Israelites, to his chosen people - may I then hope, sir, that this explanation will remove all difficulties, and that your voice and the voices of all your brethren will ascend to our Common Father in supplication and prayer on the day I have suggested.

I tender you assurance of great respect,  
JOHN TYLER

Editors' Notes: President William Henry Harrison, "Old Tippecanoe...", hero of the War of 1812 and famed Indian fighter, died after being in office for less than a month. He insisted on moving the inauguration outdoors for the first time, and he remained outside most of the day. He caught a cold that developed into pneumonia and became the first President to die in office. Vice President Tyler, "... and Tyler Too," became President, and, in announcing the death of Harrison and declaring a national day of mourning, described America as a "Christian People." Ezekiel wrote to the new President in protest and received this private reply from Tyler in April, 1847. Regarding the interesting life of Jacob Ezekiel, see <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/5955-ezekiel-jacob>

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*HJC Golf Outing and HJC Barbeque:*



**Wednesday July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

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Barbeque: **6:00 pm at HJC**

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send to:

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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  
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