

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION

INNOVATE & INTEGRATE - CREATING COMMUNITY & CONNECTION



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at an October conference in Germany in her capacity as a professional at Federation and asked me whether I would like to join her, I hesitated. In the end I went because I was curious about what I had heard was the fastest growing Jewish community in the world. I thought it was important to learn about this community first-hand, and to share with you what I would discover.

German Jewry has grown from a small community of 29,000 Jews in 1989 to more than 250,000 Jews today. These Jews are scattered throughout more than 100 towns and cities in Germany--many of them quite small. The great influx of Jews to Germany in the last twenty years has come from Russia and other former Soviet countries. Germany offered extremely generous incentives, including lifelong monthly stipends and free education and many Jews have responded. 96% of German Jewry are Russian speaking Jews.

To be a Jew in Germany is to live a life in a land filled with contradictions. We visited Dresden for Shabbat, a city that was part of the post-war Soviet bloc. Dresden was destroyed by the Allies, but its historical center has been meticulously restored and rebuilt. We attended Friday night services in a Reform synagogue in which men and women sit separately. The rabbi wore a robe similar to that of a Protestant minister, but the service was identical to a Conservative synagogue service of ten years ago. The service was held in a beautiful synagogue building financed entirely by funds from the German government, but less than a mile away elected representatives from a neo-Nazi party sit as elected representatives in the local regional government. In a country that has welcomed Jewish immigrants,



by Rabbi Kurshan

A Jew in Germany

I never thought I would travel to Germany. It was the land where Hitler had begun his murderous campaign against six million Jews. When I thought of Germany, I heard the words that God spoke to Cain: "Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground (Genesis 4:10). I am not claiming that my antipathy toward Germany is rational, but for me this was a land stained with Jewish blood.

Thus when Alisa was invited to speak

A Big Thank You! Huntington Jewish Center's Social Action Committee



Thanks Chip'n Dipped

Huntington Jewish Center's Social Action Committee would like to give our heartfelt thanks to **Chip'n Dipped** Cookies and Chocolate. They have been a wonderful partner in our quest to feed the homeless individuals in our area. Each week they generously donate their delicious kosher cookies and brownies to the Jewish Nutritional Network.

Please support **Chip'n Dipped** Cookies and Chocolate whenever you want an amazing cookie, brownie or artisan chocolate. They also specialize in gift baskets large or small customized for any occasion including Chanukah, birthdays, get well, new baby, condolence/shiva as well as corporate gifts. They are located in the heart of Huntington Village at **342 New York Avenue** just a few doors south of Main Street. Please tell them that HJC sent you.



A sailboat is washed up on the beach in Asharoken after Hurricane Sandy.

We would like to apologize for the late delivery of the November bulletin. There were unforeseen communication difficulties during the power outages after Hurricane Sandy.

HJC helps after Sandy

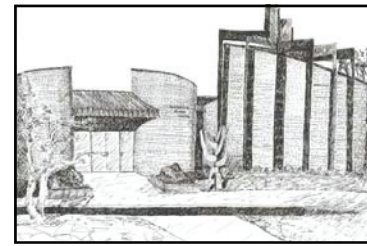


Religious school, ECC and congregants collect and deliver cleaning supplies for the hardest hit after Hurricane Sandy.



SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES--DECEMBER 1 AT 7:30 pm

This year we are watching three films about the spiritual journeys of individuals. Our next movie is **"Praying with Lior"**, the moving portrait of a special needs young man's coming of age within the embrace of a Jewish community. Discussion with Rabbi Kurshan after the film. Refreshments will be served and there will be a parallel children's movie. BYOKB (Adults, bring your own kosher bottle, and children, bring your own "kozy" blanket.) Final film in the series is **"My Father, My Lord"** on January 5



Neil Kurshan, Rabbi
423-5355

Israel Gordan, Cantor
427-1089, ext. 22

Sue Meisler
Nursery School Director
425-0525

Joel Wirchin
President
427-1089

Maxine Fisher
Religious School Director
427-1157

Jane Hallberg
Administrator
427-1089 ext. 23

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Religious School Board.....	Sheri Bram
Ritual.....	Andrea Smoller
Selichot Lecture.....	Jennifer Ingber
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 Ingber
Youth.....	Shari Klair
Youth Advisor.....	Julie Perloff



December 2012

5773 Kislev/Tevet



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Sat. Night at the Movies - 7:30am BAR MITZVAH JACOB WEISS Family Havdallah Service 5pm <i>Vayishlach</i>
2 Vav Workshop #2-9:30am Ridotto-4pm JNN Kad/USY	3 Parent Assoc. 9:45am Yoga	4 Chaverim - 6:15	5 Social Action meeting -2pm HIHI	6	7 Minyan Breakfast Shabbat Services 6pm	8 BAR MITZVAH CORY LABAN Vayeshev Erev Hanukkah
9 Vav Workshop -#3 Hanukkah Happening 11am JNN HANUKKAH	10 Yoga HANUKKAH	11 Candle Lighting 6:15pm HANUKKAH	12 HANUKKAH	13 HANUKKAH	14 ECC Teacher Luncheon Shabbat Services 6pm Rosh Chodesh HANUKKAH	15 BAR MITZVAH BENJAMIN MESSING Miketz HANUKKAH
16 Gimel Workshop -9am RS Board 11am Men's Club 9:30 JNN Kad/USY	17 Yoga	18 Chaverim- 6:15	19	20	21 <i>Shabbat Services 6pm</i>	22 BAR MITZVAH ZACHARY HIMMEL Vaigash
23 <div>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ~</div> JNN	24 <div>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ~</div>	25 Main Office Closed HIHI	26 <div>NO ECC ~ WINTER BREAK</div>	27	28 <i>Shabbat Services 6pm</i>	29 Veuechi
30 <div>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NO ECC</div> JNN	31	1 Main Office Closed				

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Shedding Light on Sandy...

by Joel Wirchin



Before October 29, we took it for granted. We didn't think about it. We didn't pause to appreciate it. We didn't imagine what life would be like without it. We didn't consider alternatives in lieu of it. We didn't thank any authority for having provided it. We just availed ourselves of it and did not rejoice at having it. It was just there. It was just, well, "it."

Then "it" went away, and everything changed.

On October 29, Huntington, all of Long Island, most of New York City, New Jersey, the eastern seaboard, and seemingly the entire modern civilized world was plunged into everlasting darkness when Hurricane

(or superstorm or Frankenstorm or 'storm of the century') Sandy came to town. Sandy overwhelmed the world with severe winds, rain, storm surges, epic flooding and related treachery which left the area clamoring for the return of "it." "It" was electricity, a/k/a that elusive, badly missed and seemingly gone forever "power." It seemed everyone in our community was in the same boat, although even a boat wouldn't have helped given the churn of the tides. We, who pride ourselves on being a fast moving, onwardly and upwardly mobile community were suddenly slowed in our tracks, reduced to becoming a township of needy, dependent, grossly inconvenienced individuals. Some, sadly, suffered more than others. Some in our community sustained significant property damage or loss and financial setback, to be followed by months of compromised living and bureaucratic red tape – insult to injury. We were living by flashlight, by candlelight or by jury-rigged solutions featuring lengthy extension cords connecting one home to another's much coveted, and increasingly-hard-to-come by ... generators. We might have been inclined to get into our cars to escape to higher ground, but even that presented at least two challenges: (1) there WAS no higher ground; and, (2) even if there was, there was not enough fuel to put in our cars to get us there. There was angry competition at filling stations – gas lines eerily reminiscent of those "energy shortage" days of the 1970's. There were 'odd and even' days for rationing, there were trees down everywhere, power lines strewn perilously about. There was no work, no school, for a time no doctor appointments, no shopping. There was no hot showering and, for many, no ability to prepare or heat food. There were barbecues in the dark and sterno burners on our kitchen tables. We were forced to endure unwanted, indoor camping trips. We were a mess!

Then it turned colder. 50's turned to 40's turned to 30's. Many of us were sleeping under layers of woolen blankets, wearing hats, scarves, heavy socks and bulky sweaters all day long, into the night ... and to sleep. Daylight was in short enough supply, this now being November. Then another cruel hoax: turning the clocks back one hour --- even LESS daylight, and for so many of us, still no power. Those blessed with one looked upon their fireplaces as a mirage – that one rare focal point where heat and light could be found, simultaneously. Then it snowed. Nine days after being ravaged by a tropical storm, here we were contending with a winter storm. It made no sense.

Despite all the hardship, heartache, setback and worry Sandy caused, she re-reminded us all over again that the 'power' of community is greater than any source of power provided by any beleaguered utility company. And with that thought in mind, our arms remain outstretched with love and support to those among us still struggling in the aftermath of Sandy. At HJC, when the going got tough, the tough got going -- fanning out to help one another as we came together. HJC was only in the dark for about two days, and when the lights came back on, the sun came out inside. That was beautiful. And that took the chill out of the air and replaced it with warmth of an entirely different definition. To the best of our ability, despite significantly hampered electronic and cellular communication, we looked out for one another. We worried about each other. As power returned to

HJC Community News

CONDOLENCES

Michael Behr on the death of his mother, Sheila Behr

Marc Hazan on the death of his mother, Sonia Hazan

Carol Prisamt on the death of her husband, our congregant, Steven Prisamt

Marsha Karant on the death of her father, Irving Tanenberg

MAZAL TOVS

Jessica & Arthur Frischman announce the birth of their son, Samuel David

Nili Gitig announces the birth of her granddaughter, Rena Lev Schwartz

Noah & Risa Finkel announce the birth of their grandson, Miles West Finkel

Lisa & Ted Felderman announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily, to Jason Raxenberg

Howard & Linda Novick announce the birth of their granddaughter, Emerson Molly Bloom

Arlene & Fred Steinberg announce the birth of their grandson, Mason Sam Goldstein

Mira & Paul Brodsky announce the marriage of their daughter, Renatt, to Jeffrey Margolies



Sisterhood News

by Sue Lefkowitz

Many thanks to Sara Aharon for her enlightening presentation about the Emigration of the Afghanistan Jews to the United States.

Do you want to save time from shopping for a Chanukah gift for your dear friend, baby sitter, or anyone else on your list? PLEASE do consider an **Entertainment Book** priced at \$30.00 which can be obtained at the HJC office.

The Chanukah Happening

will take place on **December 9th**. The Gift Shop has a wealth of Menorahs to choose from, as well as any other gift you may have in mind. The Book Fair will have many books available for all ages, plus crafts and games. We look forward to seeing you for a fun time on Dec. 9th from 11 A.M. until 1 P.M.

It's that time again! **Hamantashen** making and baking will soon begin. Call Sue Lefkowitz at 366-6222 to let her know when you have time to volunteer.

We have scrip for Waldbaum's and Pathmark. These gift cards can easily be used as a \$25.00 food gift.

Please contact:

Hannah Kampel at 631-423-6575
or **hanabil844@optonline.net**.



Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

Benjamin Hillel Messing
son of Felicia and Keith Messing



Benjamin is a seventh grader at Oldfield Middle School where he is a high honor roll student. He enjoys playing violin and guitar, and running cross country. When he has a free moment he loves reading, twisting a Rubik's cube, or taking care of his pet chickens. His parents, brother Ilan, and sister Gabriella are so proud of him!

Jacob Harrison Weiss
son of Fran and Fred Weiss



Jacob Harrison Weiss is a 7th grade high honor roll student at Oldfield Middle School. An outstanding athlete, Jacob has also studied both the clarinet and saxophone.

Jacob's greatest accomplishment though is that he's a terrific kid. His parents Fran and Fred, and sister Taylor are extremely proud of him and are looking forward to his big day.

Zachary Jacob Himmel
Son of Mimi and Dan Himmel



Zack is a 7th grade high honors student at East Northport Middle School. He is a talented soccer player, playing on both his travel and school teams, as well as a 5th degree junior black belt in karate. Zack also loves roller coasters—the wilder the better. More importantly, Zack is a true "mensch" with a kind heart who always makes time for family and friends. Mom, dad and big sister Samantha are so proud of Zack's many accomplishments and wish him mazel tov on becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Corey Laban
Son of Robin and Rick Laban



Cory is a high honor roll student at West Hollow Middle School. We are so proud of Cory and look forward to celebrating his joyous milestone as he becomes a Bar Mitzvah. Thank you Cory, for your humor, curiosity, creativity and caring. We love you, Mom, Keith, Cara, and Tootsie.



"Getting Schooled" by Cantor Israel Gordan



One of the (many) highlights from last year that I never got the chance to write about and just re-experienced this year, was leading Kabbalat Shabbat services at the Schechter School of Long Island with Rabbi Kurshan. Each week, the school invites a Rabbi and/or Cantor from an area congregation to help lead the Friday morning service at the lower school and to read a story and/or teach a song. Rabbi Kurshan and I were able to do this last

year and did it again on the morning of November 9th.

For those who are unfamiliar, the Schechter School Network is the official day school organization of the Conservative Movement. There are several Schechter schools throughout the country. I attended the Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Boston from Kindergarten through the beginning of my fifth grade year when my family moved to Western Massachusetts. The lower school here on Long Island is located in Jericho and has been in existence for 45 years. Among its numerous famous, successful, and knowledgeable graduates are all of the Rabbi's children!

The Kabbalat Shabbat service that SSLI holds on Friday mornings is a spirited affair with all of the children in kindergarten through fifth grade together in the auditorium singing, praying, and having a good time together. It is an abbreviated version of a normal Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv with several rousing songs included. What a great way to start your day and end your week! Rabbi Kurshan and I had a great time with the kids, including several from our own congregation. It is a joy to see so many knowledgeable, committed young Jewish children together in a way that reminds me of my own school experience.

But it is not just some families who choose to send their kids to Schechter from the HJC, our congregation also boasts the Head of School, Cindy Dolgin, the Elementary School Principal, Cantor Marcey Wagner, and the Director of Admissions and Community Engagement, Rabbi Dr. Tracy Kaplowitz, as members. It's great to see Marcey Wagner in front of the entire lower school doing her thing! Clearly the connection between our synagogue and this school is a strong one and one that I would love to see grow. On Simchat Torah, in addition to the three administrators, we also had Rina Steinberg, Yair Koas, and Matthew Wertheim read Torah, all of whom are Schechter students.

Schechter schools are just one piece of the Conservative movement's organizations. USY, Ramah Camps, Koach on Campus, and other organizations such as Men's Club, Sisterhood, etc. all help to support each other in the efforts to maintain and build vibrant Jewish communities. I hope we continue to work on our own community at the HJC through our programming, schools, and worship, as well as the larger community of which we are part: both Conservative Judaism and the larger Jewish community in addition to Huntington and beyond, in this ever more connected world.

Partners in Caring at Huntington Jewish Center

Under the auspices of Partners in Caring, a UJA funded program bringing together **FEGS** Long Island (the region's Jewish human services agency) and synagogues, we have a **FEGS** social worker, Marlie Cohen, MSW, as part of our Huntington Jewish Center staff on a part-time basis.

This partnership strengthens our connection to both **FEGS** 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 Marlie Cohen, MSW at 516-496-7550 x210, or by e-mail, macohen@fegs.org.

UJA-Federation of New York's

Partners in Caring

You can also contact HJC's PIC liason, Janet Zimmerman,
at 631-491-4084,
or at ladyzim@optonline.net.

some, members opened up their homes to friends and fellow congregants so that the 're-empowered' could offer shelter and refuge to those still 'power-less.' A special outreach was done for our seniors and potentially more vulnerable congregants. Many opened their guest rooms to others – some of whom had been total strangers to one another until Sandy arrived. Under challenging circumstances, new relationships were formed and the best of HJC shone through, yet again. HJC opened its' doors and became a haven for all those needing a place to warm up, enjoy a hot meal, play a game, read a book, or to simply be 'warmed' by the communal glow found in our synagogue. Others opted for some private alone-time in comfortable conditions. And still others saw it as an opportunity to 're-charge' – not just themselves but their army of electronic devices. Not until Sandy had our congregation focused an iota on the number of electrical outlets found in the building. After Sandy, I doubt there's an I-phone, laptop or blackberry user among us who couldn't tell us exactly how many there are, and WHERE they are placed, in detail!

Rabbi Kurshan and Cantor Gordan led us in Shabbat services that brought more meaning than under usual circumstances. And our kiddushes featured warm, home cooking of comfort foods that hit a very much needed spot. We thank all those (and you know who you are) who contributed mightily to these efforts that brought sustenance to a community in need.

By the time you read this, I pray that most of us will have our power back. And the great tradition of our people as survivors will again be affirmed. Sandy may have taken down our trees, but not our resolve. Sandy may have momentarily left us cold, but in the longer run may have somehow left us warmer and better off, if only in our having grown closer and more united as a congregation. All that which we probably did take for granted, we may now appreciate differently. This refers not only to our lights and our heat, but also the very roofs above our heads (damaged though some may be), the walls that surround us, the places we call home.

And in the greatest display of irony and resilience . . . the season of Sandy's darkness and cold will soon yield to the season of light – Chanukkah lights – a season of warmth and family and "reconnections" of that most blessed kind.

As the lights come back on, may the glow of the candles bring warmth to you and your loved ones. . . .

Happy Chanukkah & Chag Sameach from our home to each and every one of yours!

Early Childhood News

by Susie Meisler



"The Voice"

There is a voice inside of you
That whispers all day long,
"I feel this is right for me
I know that this is wrong."
No teacher, preacher, parent friend
Or wise man can decide
What's right for you-just listen to
The voice that speaks inside"

Shel Silverstein

I have been best friends with my inner voice for over six decades and have learned through the years to strengthen that voice by listening more closely, hearing what it truly wants to say, deciding on whether or not the voice is speaking from an unbiased position due to its past history to please others, honoring its wisdom of experience, and allowing it to speak with honesty and integrity.

Where did that voice of self-judgment come from? It came about when I was very young, as it does in everyone. It starts when a person develops the qualities of memory and logic. Before these two qualities merge, we stay in the present moment where there is only the desire and action to express ourselves. You just have to watch children in our early childhood two year old program to see the beauty of being able to stay present and explore life with little to stand in its way. As memory develops, children begin to recall their parents, for example, admonishing their behavior for not picking up the toys, jumping on the couch, hurting someone else and so much more.

While memory is being developed, so is logic. When our mind remembers what our parents said the last time the toys were not put away, logic then kicks in as well. For example, if a child didn't pick up toys, memory would help recall the incident. Logic would then remind the child how to avoid a parent's upset and perhaps punishment by picking up the toys and making the parent happy. The voice is important as it helps to remind us what to do in order to be happy. The voice is a rule follower of other people's rules. It is this inner voice that sometimes keeps us from staying present by recalling what we should and should not do according to other people's judgment and hopefully one's own sense of right and wrong. It also, however, serves as a Guardian Angel as it tells us how to stay safe and happy.

Suffice it to say that how we talk to our children becomes part of their inner voice and self-image. Are we talking to them with respect, with open mindedness, with an awareness of developmental behavior, with a logical explanation as to why rules are put in place for them, and are adults allowing children to make well thought out decisions before we impart our own demand or a command?

In order to help children strengthen their inner voice while at school, teachers create a stop light approach to help children figure out for themselves whether or not they are hearing their inner voice. Some teachers in our school make a stop light with a green, red and yellow circle. Each child has a clothes pin with their name on it. All children start at the beginning of the day with their clothes pin on the green circle. If a child does something that steps out of the classroom rules, or makes a poor judgment as to how he or she treats another child, the teacher asks the child to correct the behavior by doing what the child thinks is the right way to behave. If the child does not correct it, they must move their clothes pin into the yellow circle. The teachers give the child another chance to figure out how to correct the behavior by thinking out loud as to what would have been a better choice. Making children think of the correct way of acting in a social and school setting without our input,

develops the child's inner voice. We have yet to see any child reach the red circle. Children inwardly know what they need to do and we educators trust that they will independently come around to doing it without our help.

It is extremely beneficial to children to show them positive ways of thinking and how to recognize their inner message voice of self-talk. Make sure that what you say out loud in front of your children reflects positive thinking. Be aware of your own inner critic trying to say statements such as "I don't think I can do that" instead of saying "I can try to do that and know that when I keep practicing, I will get better at it." It's always better to describe what you see your children doing right than getting upset with what they didn't do. I recently saw a child raise a hand to another child and right before he was going to hit her, he stopped for a second. Just at the time of stopping I stepped in and said, "I see you were so angry that you wanted to use your hands but then you stopped yourself and showed so much self-control because you truly knew that was not the best way to solve your problem."

At various stages of my children's lives, I made a chart with them to determine if they were aware of their strengths and character. This was especially helpful during their teen years when their inner critic was more negative than positive. I periodically asked my daughters to put down on paper what they thought were positive qualities about how they acted at home and outside the home. If their list was too short, I would let them know what I saw in their actions that they might not have recognized were positive qualities. For instance, my younger daughter was exceptionally kind to her older sister and allowed her to take charge of what activities they were to partake in for the day. First I noticed that giving her older sister the lead role in what games to play or what movie they wanted to see together was very generous of spirit. Then I would bring up the fact that everyone is entitled to have a voice as to what to do as well. I added it was perfectly okay to say that it was her turn to make the decision as to what plan of action they had for the day. It took many years of practicing to speak her mind, but she succeeded in doing so not only with her sister, but other people in her life as well.

Since we are destined to have this internal companion whispering in our ears for our entire lives, the importance of helping our children develop healthy "inner voices" is apparent. Be a role model. When you are disappointed or have failed at something, talk to your child about it. Be honest with your child about your own inner critic. Notice how you behave when your inner critic attacks and set the example for your child. Let your child see you demonstrating healthy ways of dealing with disappointment. Howard Thurman was an influential American author, philosopher, theologian, educator and civil rights leader who once said, "There is something in every one of you that waits and listens for the sound of the genuine in yourself. It is he only true guide you will ever have. And if you cannot hear it, you will all of your life spend your days on the ends of strings that somebody else pulls." It is our duty for all adults working with young children to strengthen the voice from within each child in our presence. Have faith in the child's goodness of spirit, and they will have faith in themselves.

HJC Babysitters:

**Rina Steinberg, age 16, cell 631 255-9808
home 631 424-2954**

Jordan Biener, 631-547-0631

**send your updated information to
kwillen@mac.com**

include your current home and cell numbers

one of its states has just outlawed circumcision.

The German Jews we met--many of them young adults-- live lives as complicated as the structures of which they are a part. We spent an evening with three young adults who are teachers in a Jewish youth center in Berlin. One young man came from a family tracing its origins in Germany to several generations before WW II. After the war the family had returned to Germany, and he was now a student in a German university. He hopes to work in the German automobile industry, but told us he will not indicate on his job application that he is Jewish out of a fear of discrimination.

Another young man came from a family that left Russia for Israel when he was a young man. He spent the first few years of his life in Israel, but his father was offered a job singing in the Berlin opera. This young man has spent most of his life in Germany and hopes to get a job there, but told us he would be just as happy living in Israel where all his family except his parents live.

The last of the three was a young woman who came with her family to Germany from the Former Soviet Union when she was two. Although her parents were not Jewish, her family was taken in by the Jewish community because she has one Jewish grandparent, and thus is considered Jewish under the Law of Return even if not by Jewish law. She works professionally in the Jewish community, in part, because she wants to give back to the Jewish community. She would like to convert to Judaism, but because she cannot commit to leading an Orthodox lifestyle, the rabbinate in Germany will not accept her as a candidate for conversion.

So many of the young Jewish adults with whom we spoke do not feel fully comfortable in Germany as Germans, as Jews, or as Russian speakers. Some, but not all, have experienced anti-Semitism in Germany. Several of the senior leaders of the Jewish community told us off the record that there is a deep strain of anti-Semitism in contemporary Germany. Yet we met so many young Jewish adults who are passionate about exploring their Judaism and who are optimistic they will be able to create a viable and vibrant Jewish life for themselves their families and the communities in which they are engaged. We learned of an incredible diversity of projects in which these university students and young professionals whom we met are involved. They are engaged in projects ranging from creating Israeli dance groups, to creating a Jewish debate society to creating a mentor program for up-and-coming Jewish entrepreneurs. These are young Jews who were thought lost to the Jewish community, and while it's possible to suggest reasons why these strongly identifying young Jews have emerged from families without any Jewish observance, their renewed Judaism is ultimately part of the mystery and miracle of Jewish life.

I left Germany unsure about the future of Jewish life there. If a vibrant Jewish community were only dependent on the enthusiasm and commitment of its young people, there would be no question about the

future of Jewish life in Germany. However, each of these Jewishly committed young adults said to us that they need support for their efforts to create programming for their fellow Jews. They need help to build the infrastructure to create viable communities. The chief rabbi in Berlin said to us that the next ten to fifteen years will decide the future of Jewish life in Germany.

UJA-Federation Federation of New York funds the Jewish Agency that provides Russian- speaking Jews in Germany support and expertise to work with these young Jews to re-create Jewish life in Germany. Our efforts on behalf of Federation will help to determine whether Germany once again becomes a graveyard for Jewish life or whether Germany emerges as one of a small number of vibrant Jewish communities in the world. Our support will help to determine the outcome.

The Huntington Jewish Center
510 Park Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743
(631) 427-1089 Fax (631) 427- 8118

Presents



Performances:

Saturday, March 2nd ~ Sunday, March 3rd ~ Saturday, March 9th ~ Sunday, March 10th

() Front Cover \$3000

() Back Cover	\$1500	() Inside Back Cover	\$1000
() Program Listing	\$1200	() Inside Front Cover	\$1000
() Full Page	\$350	() Half Page	\$200
() Quarter Page	\$175	() Business Card	\$95
		(1/8 Page)	

() Booster \$40

(100 character maximum including spaces. Friends and Family only)

*Please indicate the exact wording of your booster ad on the reverse side
or submit ads via email to playbookhjc@gmail.com*

**All ads must be accompanied by payment. Please make checks payable to
Huntington Jewish Center. You may also pay by credit card.**

DEADLINE: January 21, 2013

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Address/City/Zip Code/Phone _____

My check payable to HJC is enclosed (This saves HJC 3% of your pledge.) Ck# _____

Charge my MasterCard /Visa _____

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**Any questions? Call Jane Hallberg, 631-427-1089 x23.
Thank you for your support!!**

Religious School Update

by Maxine Fisher - Religious School Administrator

I hope everyone is safe and warm after the effects of Hurricane Sandy and then the Nor'easter. So many HJC families were without heat and power for several days. It still seems surreal that this could happen here in Huntington, not to mention the houses on the south shore that were totally devastated. It was wonderful to see how our community pulled together to help one another.

We had a special day of Religious School on November 6th. The children discussed their experience with the storm in groups. They all had many stories to share which is good as this was the first opportunity many had to share with school being closed. The children also helped make cookies for those in the community visiting our family life room and Kiddush lounge for warmth. Others drew pictures of their experiences which are hanging in the Religious School hallway for all to see. We also played games.

Because of the Hurricane we had to reschedule the first three Vav Family workshop with Rabbi Kurshan. The new dates are:

Workshop #1 November 18th

Workshop #2 December 2nd

Workshop #3 December 9th before the Hanukah Happening.

The annual Hanukah Happening will take place on Sunday, December 9th at 11:00. There will be all kinds of crafts, games, and food as well as Sisterhood's gift shop and a book fair. It is a lot of fun for all ages.

On December 11th we will also have our candle lighting ceremony for the whole congregation. We will meet at 6:15 in front of the building, and Cantor Gordan will lead us in Chanukkah songs. Following the candle lighting we will head inside for hot cocoa and donuts sponsored by Sisterhood.

On December 16th Rabbi Kurshan will lead a discussion and movie with the Vav and Mitzvah Team classes on the "Lone Soldiers". Also that day the gimel class will have the G-d workshop.

I wish you all a very bright Hanukah!

USY News
by Sarah Sachs



Hello everyone!

I hope you've all recovered from hurricane sandy and the nor'easter without too much damage and that all is well. USY has been busy in spite of the treacherous weather this month. From an intense relay race throughout the HJC to an Ice cream sunday making challenge. We've also welcomed some new USY'ers to our community this past month (shout out to Shana) and still hold open the opportunity for anyone looking to experience USY to join. We look forward to our Cupcake War event coming up where we will face off with the Kadimaitees to a baking challenge. We will also be hosting an inter-chapter meeting of Poker Night so while playing cards we will also be meeting USY'ers from other chapters. We are also excited to start our Tikun Olam, Canstruction project this winter. Please donate cans, all efforts will profit INN organization, while also allowing our community to get involved in a fun way. Thanks so much and please feel free to contact me anytime for more information about anything.

My cellphone number is 631-742-4269.

Rabbi Kurshan's 2013 Sabbatical

As many of you know, Rabbi Kurshan's sabbatical leave will commence on January 14, 2013. This is a special opportunity both for the Rabbi and HJC, because it will give him a well-deserved period for study, reflection and research, and will prepare him to bring back to us his renewed academic, pastoral and spiritual energy. The Sabbatical will last approximately three months, and the Rabbi will return on April 22.

A special committee of HJC leaders and professionals has been working diligently to prepare for this sabbatical period. The committee members are Chairperson Arthur Perler, Joel Wirchin; President, Lester Fox, Paul Greenstein, Susan Lax, Cantor Israel Gordan, and Rabbi Kurshan. The Committee is developing a plan that would enable us to maintain the high religious leadership standards that we all expect from HJC. The development of that plan has been a very useful exercise in articulating the many responsibilities and authorities with which we invest our Rabbi. Personally, I found the task to be extremely enlightening, and I gained a renewed appreciation for Rabbi Kurshan and the beautiful way he handles his very difficult job. As a corollary to that, I have come to understand, in even greater detail, the duties and responsibilities of Cantor Gordan, upon whom we are calling to help us maintain these high standards. HJC is truly blessed to have two such fine religious leaders.

The Committee is updating and implementing the same strategies we successfully used during the Rabbi's previous sabbatical. The plan takes the form of a written document – "HJC Sabbatical Handbook" – supplemented by the discussions and conclusions taken at the meetings. The Committee attempted to note every aspect of the Rabbi's activities, and each of these will become the responsibility of an experienced HJC member or professional. We are pleased to announce that several members have agreed to be on the Bimah during our regular and special religious services and to present Divrei Torah. The Rabbi will return for a week in March to officiate at the only Bar Mitzvah scheduled during his Sabbatical.

The one area in which we need your active participation is the accumulation of information about our members and families. As a community, it is imperative that we make an extra effort to pass information on to the office, the Cantor or the Board members about life cycle events, Smachot, special needs and community activities. Rabbi Kurshan is normally our "magnet" for much of this information, and, during his sabbatical, we must not assume that the synagogue will get the information he normally would collect. Please pass information on so that we can continue to function as a closely-knit spiritual family. We also will need additional congregants to help us complete the weekday morning Minyan.

By this time next month, we will be acutely aware that Rabbi Kurshan is leaving, and I know that I will miss him personally. I am sure, however, that we all will use this experience to learn and grow, and to prepare to push the Huntington Jewish Center to new and spectacular achievements upon his return. I hope you will all join this Committee in wishing him a meaningful and productive experience, even as we tell him that we eagerly await his return.

Arthur Perler, Chairperson, Rabbi's Sabbatical Committee

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Any other services you can provide!
Please contact:
Maxine Fisher (mirifish@aol.com)
Andrea Morris (joligran@gmail.com)
Miriam Wirchin (mirm1225@aol.com)



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Harvey Fader in memory of Zachary Loozis, father of Beverly Wegener & Matt Loozis.

Lone Soldier

On Sunday, October 28th, "A Lone Soldier" program was held at the South Huntington Jewish Center. It was a coordinated effort with UJA Federation of N.Y.'s Social Action Month and was supported by many local Synagogues including our own Huntington Jewish Center.

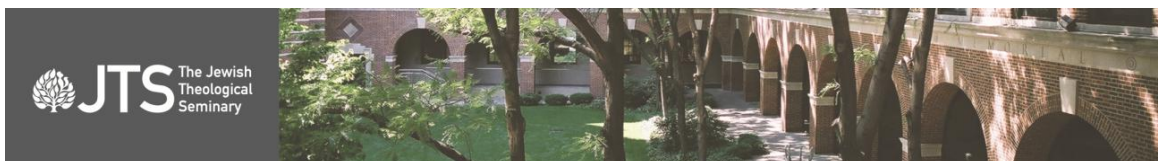
For those of you who may not know about the "Lone Soldiers" they are members of the IDF who have no family support in Israel.

We have the ability to invite some of these men who are (were) "Lone Soldiers" to come to speak to us about the plight of men and women who fight for the State of Israel. We would like feedback from you, our HJC community, if you would be interested in attending this type of program.

Ellen Kahn and I attended the program at SHJC and were very moved by the young men who spoke.

Thank you.
Marilyn Klein

Please respond to:
Social Action Co-chairs
Marilyn Klein 631 271-8461
Janet Kushnick 631 271-8803



Juilliard at JTS and Other Musical Offerings from the JTS Arts Initiative

The concert **JTS Presents: An Evening of Juilliard Vocal and Chamber Music**, held in November, marked the first visit to JTS by an ensemble from the Juilliard School in New York. The concert was held for free to encourage attendance by those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

In the 2012–2013 season, two Juilliard ensembles will visit JTS in daylong residencies that include dynamic performances and master classes that educate and inspire. Through examination of Jewish culture and community within the arts, the residencies—including the evening concerts, which are open to the public—will incorporate music of composers of Jewish heritage, as well as compositions that highlight Jewish themes and traditions. Featured performers include alumni from Juilliard's Ellen and James A. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts and its Music Division in the fall, and performers from Juilliard Jazz in the spring. The spring performance is currently planned for April 4, 2013.

Separately, the H. L. Miller Cantorial School Chorus, of the H. L. Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music, will present **We Are Lights: A Concert of Chanukah Music** on **Thursday, December 6, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.**, at JTS. The performance will feature the New York premiere of *Eight Days of Chanukah*, by Abraham Kaplan. Hazzan David F. Tilman will conduct, and Elizabeth Rodgers will provide piano accompaniment.

For more information about the concerts, the JTS Arts Initiative, or to support JTS, please contact Lucy Posner at (212) 678-8865 or luposner@jtsa.edu.

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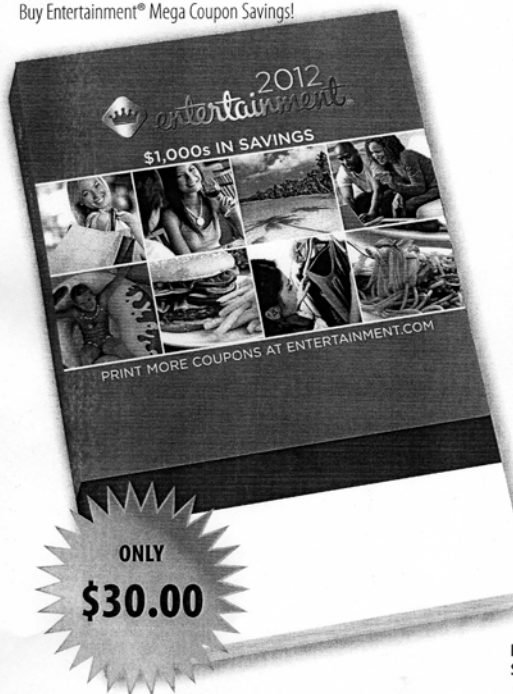
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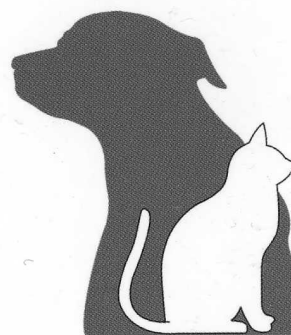
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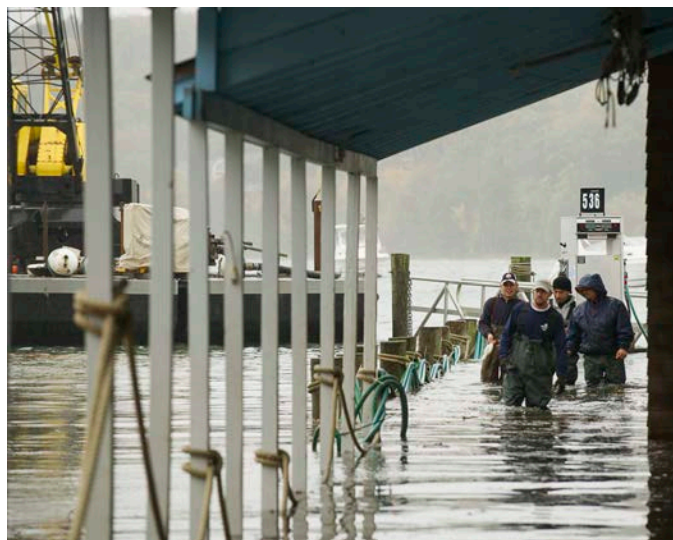
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tel (631) 427-1089 fax (631) 427-8118

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