

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION

INNOVATE & INTEGRATE - CREATING COMMUNITY & CONNECTION



by Rabbi Kurshan

“Prayeraphernalia”

Most of us do not speak about prayer. It is probably one of the last subjects we would think of bringing up among a social gathering of our friends. For many of us prayer is irrelevant, outmoded, inaccessible, or boring. Yet one day in late November Cantor Gordan and I spent an entire day engaged in discussions about prayer with a group of 200 other Jews.

The occasion was a Yom Iyyun (a day of study) in Manhattan titled Engaging in Prayer as “Practice”. The premise of the conference was that most of us think about communal prayer as attending services rather than as spiritual practice with a set of goals. Because we think of prayer as attending services, most of us don’t do it very often. It is somewhat analogous to exercise. If we exercise for recreation, we will probably be lackadaisical about

it. If we exercise because we want to lose weight or improve our stamina, we are more likely to have a disciplined practice. Furthermore we can measure very precisely how we are doing in terms of our goals. If the goals are important to us, we are likely to keep at our exercise regimen until we reach them.

Similarly with prayer—if it is a practice with a set of goals, we are more likely to keep it up than if we just pray when we “attend services”. There can be many goals for a prayer practice—connecting to God or our souls; connecting to the Jewish community or to the history of the Jewish people; improving our character; being inspired to work to improve the world; support in a time of crisis and so on. With any of these goals we can measure tangibly how prayer is helping us. We can say that any particular service or prayer experience helped us or did not help us draw closer to our goal. We may even develop a serious discipline of prayer because we find ourselves falling behind in achieving our goals. If the goal is important to us and we find that prayer is helping us get closer to realizing it, we are likely to keep at it. Many individuals have a serious spiritual practice through yoga

or meditation, and feel they belong to a community of practice. Having a commitment to a Jewish prayer practice with clearly articulated goals and belonging to a community of fellow practitioners is very different than saying let’s go to services to hear what the rabbi or cantor will to say to us.

I don’t want to minimize the “prayeraphernalia” we all bring to



Adult Education Presents ~

Jewish Public Affairs Forum

Led by Kenneth Bob

Re-scheduled for

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

at 8:00 pm



Tikkun Olam: Jewish Communal Responsibility for Healing the World, the United States & Israel

This session of the Jewish Public Affairs Forum will examine the textual roots of the notion of Tikkun Olam and how they are being understood and applied in the modern day.

All are welcome!

RSVP to Debbier@hjcny.org or at 427-1089 Ext 10 in advance so that course material can be distributed in advance.

synagogue. For some of us Hebrew may be a barrier. We may feel there are too many words in the Siddur. We may not like the melodies because they are different from the ones we know from our childhood. We may have doubts about God, and not be sure with whom we are speaking with when we pray.

We talked at the conference about whether there should be more silence in our services and not so many words. Should there be more English so that people understand what they are saying? Most of us felt that a little davening with kavanah (with meaning) is better than saying all the words of the service by rote. One of the speakers made the point that the sign of good davening is tissues; there should be tears in a services that touches our souls. Prayer should be moving and intimate. Shul should be a place where it is OK to be exposed and vulnerable before God even if it hard to be that way in the presence of our family and our friends. All of us know that tissues are all too rare in shul although in my years on the Bimah, I have seen them taken out on many occasions

I liked the image of one of the conference presenters who commented we have become flabby in the mid-section of the soul and we need to figure out a davening regimen that will improve our spiritual health. I came away from the conference with a new perspective about prayer, but the conference also left me with more questions than answers about how to tackle what is one of the most problematic areas of Jewish life. I did come away convinced that we need to talk more to one another about what happens (or does not happen) when we pray so that we can clarify our goals for prayer and then figure out how to draw closer to their realization.



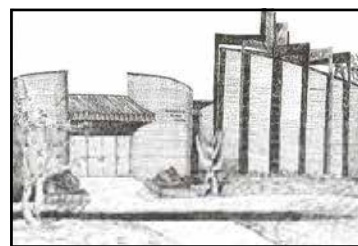
Dear 2015 Bar and Bat Mitzvah Parent,

There will be an important meeting for all 2015 Bar and Bat Mitzvah parents on Thursday, **January 30th at 8:00 pm** in the Family Life Center. At this meeting, we will discuss procedures, standards, training, and other aspects of the Bar and Bat Mitzvah program, including use of the synagogue facilities for the kiddush and other celebrations.

Cantor Gordan & I will be happy to answer any questions you may have about Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation. Also speaking will be representatives of the Synagogue, Sisterhood, and the Ritual Committee.

All of us look forward to helping you make this simcha a joyous and religiously meaningful occasion.

Sincerely,
Neil Kurshan, Rabbi



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January 2014

Tevet/Shevat 5774

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Main Office Closed 	2 NO ECC PJ Library Movie and Dinner 5pm  ROSH CHODESH	3 NO ECC  Minyan Breakfast Shabbat Services 6pm	4  Saturday Night at the Movies 7:30pm Bo
5 JNN RS in session	6 Yoga 	7 Chaverim 6:15	8 HIHI	9 Hebrew Chug 4:15pm	10 Parent Association 10:45am Shabbat Services 6pm	11 RS Family Shabbat 10:30am Beshallah
12 JNN RS Board 10:45am MC Board Ridotto 4:00pm RS Sedars USY/Kad	13 Yoga ECC Parlor Meeting 7:30pm	14 Jewish Public Affairs with Ken Bob 8pm 	15	16 Hebrew Chug 6:15pm  Tu B'Shevat	17 Shabbat Services 6pm	18 ECC Family Service 10:00am Birthday Shabbat  Yitro
19 JNN NO Religious School	20 NO ECC Main Office Closed Martin Luther King Day	21 RS-Parent Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal 5:45pm)	22 ECC Parent Teacher Conferences (school in session) HIHI	23 Ritual Committee 8pm	24 RS Family Shabbat 5pm Shabbat Services 6pm	25 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Max & Chloe Morris  Mishpatim
26 JNN RS Parent Teacher Conferences RS Workshop Jewish Camp Fair 9-1 USY/Kad	27 Yoga	28 Chaverim 6:15	29	30 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parent Meeting 8pm 	31 Shabbat Services 6pm ROSH CHODESH	



February 2014

Adar 5774

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Bat Mitzvah Morgana Lipton  Saturday Night at the Movies 7:30pm Terumah
2 JNN World Wide Wrap 8:30am Vav Workshop 9:30am USY/Kad	3 Yoga	4	5	6 Hebrew Chug 6:15pm	7  Minyan Breakfast Parent Assoc. 9:45am Shabbat Services 6:15	8 Bar Mitzvah Elijah Farkash  Tetzaveh
9 RS Board Bowling 2pm  USY/Kad	10 Yoga SH Board 8pm	11 Wise Aging ~ "Empty Nesters" with Rabbi Kurshan 7:30pm Chaverim 6:15	12 HIHI	13	14 Shabbat Services 6pm	15 Ki Tisa
16 JNN NO Religious School	17 Main Office Closed  Presidents Day	18 PJ Library Event NO Religious School	19	20 ECC Bowling 	21 Shabbat Services 6pm	22 Vayakhel
23 JNN NO Religious School Ridotto 4pm	24 Yoga Men's Club Event 7:30pm	25 Chaverim 6:15	26 HIHI	27	28 Shabbat Services 6pm	



Bar/Bat Mitzvahs December/January

Max Gordon

son of Robin and Ed Gordon
December 14, 2013



- Max is very proud to become a Bar Mitzvah and follow in the footsteps of his older brother, father and grandfather. Max is a seventh grade student at Finley Middle School. His academics are very important to him and he is an avid reader. He plays soccer for CSH, loves to play tennis and has played lacrosse since 3rd grade.
- Max spends his summers at Camp Taconic and enjoys skiing in the winter. Max is excited to share his special day with close friends and family. Max - you make us proud every day and we are so impressed with the young man you have become. We love you very much, Mom, Dad and Jack



Chloe Meredith Morris

daughter of Randi and
Steven Morris
January 25, 2014

Chloe is an honors
student at Stimpson

- Middle School. She has been dancing with Variations Dance since she was 3 years old. She participated in the Glee class where she learned to sing and dance. Chloe has performed with the Variations dance company, Rising Stars. Chloe has always loved animals and is devoted to the family dog. She attended HJC Preschool with her twin brother, Max.
- We are filled with pride as we watch you grow into a loving and caring young lady.
- Mazel Tov with love from Mom & Dad, Max and Trixie



Maxwell Schultz Morris

Son of Randi and Steven Morris
January 25, 2014

Max is an honors student at Stimpson Middle School. He loves to draw, specifically cartoon characters and anime related art. Max has a great sense of humor and likes to spending time amusing and entertaining his friends & family. Max is a strong swimmer, having started lessons at the Suffolk Y-JCC as an infant. He loves spending time outdoors, swimming at the beach or hiking in the woods. Max attended HJC Preschool with his twin sister, Chloe.

You bring us joy everyday as we watch you grow into a fine young man.
Mazel Tov with love from Mom & Dad, Chloe and Trixie



Bar/Bat Mitzvahs February



Morgana Lipton

daughter of Ewa and
Charles Lipton
February 1, 2014

Morgana is a 7th
grader at Cold Spring
Harbor Junior High.
she loves reading,
computers, tennis

and softball. She was on the tennis team at school and
will also play softball. She has a very strong personality
and is a goal achiever. Her parents, Ewa and Charlie,
brother Jonah and sister Sam are very proud of her.



Elijah Farkash

son of Lori and Dr.
Arthur Farkash
February 8, 2014

Elijah is a seventh
grade student at Cold
Spring Harbor Junior/
Senior High School.
He loves hockey,
tennis, music, playing
the trumpet and
being with his friends.

He is on the Cold Spring Harbor middle school hockey
team. Elijah has a bearded dragon named Izzy and a dog
Pasha. He makes his family laugh and smile every single
day. Elijah's sister Ava, mom Lori and Dad Arthur are
extremely proud of him and are really looking forward to
his Bar Mitzvah!

Schechter School of Long Island's Night of Jewish Learning-

"Jewish Identity in a Global Society"

Keynote- Yossi Prager, Executive Director: The Avi Chai Foundation, North America
February 8, 2014, 7:00-10:30 pm

Please join over 20 rabbis and educators from the New York Metropolitan Area for the Schechter School of Long Island's
second Night of Jewish Learning.

The program will include opportunities to learn with outstanding teachers about how Jewish
tradition confronts the question of what it means to be a Jew in every generation, as well as a keynote address by Yossi
Prager of the Avi Chai Foundation, which works towards making a global impact on Jews and Judaism.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Joshua Rabin at jrabin@ssdsnassau.org

HJC Community News



MAZAL TOV

Ted and Lisa Felderman announce the marriage of their daughter, Emily, to Jason Raxenberg

NEW MEMBERS

Sandy Lynn Riefberg of Huntington

Karin Arlin of Huntington

Steven & Li Gettleman of Huntington and their daughter, Liora , 4 months old

CONDOLENCES

Ilene Kaplan on the death of her brother, Jeff Gangel

Arlene Rubenstein on death of her mother, Martha Besen

Jeff Zimmerman on the death of his father, Paul Zimmerman

PJ Library Havdallah Service



The cantor and congregants enjoy the PJ Library Havdallah service on December 7th.

President's Perspective

by William Wertheim



Well, the secular New Year fast approaches. One of the interesting, and sometimes challenging, things about being Jewish in the USA is contending with the holiday hoopla for a festival we don't celebrate. Professionally it was always easy for me to take the shift on December 25, sparing my colleagues the burden of working when they had family parties to attend. It felt good, and also

allowed me to feel a little better about taking off for Rosh Hashana or Passover. Now, I confess, having to attend a long series of holiday parties gets a little tiring—many nights late at work, surrounded by people having fun, but after the fifth one, I am ready to turn the page on a new month. This year seemed particularly odd, since Hanukah was a few weeks ago now, and people carefully tried to correctly ask how my Hanukah was, rather than is. I really appreciate their asking, and their inclusivity, but really, Hanukah is not such a big deal. The best part this year was the triple coincidence—Hanukah and Thanksgiving, but also Hanukah and my daughter's 18th birthday, and the chance to have all the family together for a couple of days.

So how was my Hanukah? Well, it started great, with a wonderful Hanukah Happening. This year's Hanukah Happening was a huge success—lots of people came out to play games, draw pictures, nosh, and buy gifts. There are always a lot of great finds at the Hanukah Happening, and I was particularly happy to see so many children with their parents, laughing, creating works of art that would no doubt be prominently displayed on a parent's (or grandparent's) mantel, and getting into the mood of Hanukah. Once Hanukah began, we tried to follow our usual family traditions as closely as possible. In our house, we've collected a large number of Hanukiyot over the years—some as gifts for Bar or Bat Mitzvahs, some made in Hebrew School, some found on trips. It's rare for us to light fewer than 3, and sometimes we get up to 5 Hanukiyot lit. I always think I should install a sprinkler system right over our windowsill, but we are very attentive to the candles. I also like the medley of shapes and designs: a "Noah's Ark" one, with a different animal head for each candle; a modernist metal detachable one with interesting shapes and pretty colors for each candle; a home-made painted wood one with metal nuts as candle holders, a traditional-looking metal candelabra but with arms that move so the candles aren't necessarily in a line. With different levels of candles, and different shapes of candles, and different arrays of Hanukiyot, it looks like a

con't on page 12



Sisterhood News

by Marsha Buchholtz and
Evelyn Silverberg

Our "**Challah Workshop**" on December 5th saw a large number of participants including both learners and instructors. The group crafted challah with two to six braids and a novel "Nutella" challah shaped like a flower. This was introduced to us by a woman who although she was not an HJC member had heard that we would be baking and asked to join us. The fruits of our labor will be donated to JNN and will be brought to the shelters along with JNN's usual luncheon fare. We are all looking forward to our next challah baking session in April on a date to be announced.

A joint venture between Sisterhood, Social Action and our Early Childhood Center is currently being organized. Sisterhood and Social Action members will be reading books on a regular basis to HJC's two to five year olds in their classrooms. We hope that the children will enjoy hearing the stories selected by their teachers as much as we know that we will love reading them.

This year we find a growing number of HJC women are joining our Sisterhood. Just a reminder to new members that your first year with Sisterhood is free. **Our dues are currently \$40.00 yearly and \$25.00 for seniors including our Paid-Up Membership Dinner.** If anybody still wishes to join, please call **Donna Fleiss at (631) 385-7850 or email her at donna.fleiss@gmail.com.**

Sisterhood's programs and events are planned for in advance on a yearly basis. Please watch for our upcoming Taste of Passover, our Book Discussion, Rummage Sale, Challah Workshop and others.

Sisterhood is the heart of a congregation, filled with love, warmth, courage and strength. Take good care of it.

Social Action Committee

On January 11 the Social Action Committee will host a Kiddush sponsored by the Lone Soldier Center in Jerusalem. There will be several former Lone Soldiers present who will share some of their experiences. The Social Action Committee is encouraging members of the congregation to send letters or very small packages containing items such as warm caps, socks, etc to the Lone Soldiers to show our appreciation to those brave young people. For further information contact

Ellen Kahn 631-692-8548 ellenkahn@optonline.net
or
Janet Kushnick 271-8803 marttrial@aol.com



Happy New Year!

by Cantor Israel Gordan



Staying up until midnight, drinking champagne, watching the ball drop, kissing; it's hard to compare that to sitting in shul for five hours and listening to the shofar blasts, but those are the ways we celebrate New Years and Rosh Hashanah, or (one of) the Jewish New Years (there are actually four of them). It's clear that one is a lot easier to do and a lot more fun than the other, but life isn't always about fun. And they certainly don't have to compete; luckily

they come at different times of the year and serve very different purposes. The roles that secular and Jewish holidays play, however, are important in their differences and constitute important parts of our lives as American Jews.

One of the most basic elements of Judaism as a religion is an effort to bring holiness into our lives at all moments. "Be holy for I the Lord your God am holy." We greet each morning with thankfulness and praise to God for being alive and being presented with a new day and all of the opportunities that we have to be our best selves and help repair the world. Before and after we eat, we say b'rakhot that help focus our energies on being mindful, present, and appreciative of the bounties that we enjoy, especially in light of the suffering of so many others. So much of the daily liturgy helps us to recognize the beauty and wonder of the natural world that surrounds us. Without a way to focus our thoughts on the miracles that occur every day, we would become immune and desensitized to them. The practice of Judaism provides us with structure and a way to experience the world so that it can be infused with meaning and purpose. The New Year is not just a celebration, but a way to take stock, to reflect, to repent, and to plan for the year ahead.

That being said, it is important to celebrate. We do so religiously every week on Shabbat, at festive holidays, and during momentous life occasions. But a great way to put our Jewish identity in perspective is by providing a context with which to compare it. Most elements of secular life are devoid of meaning and in fact emphasize immediate individual pleasure without long-term goals or communal benefits. It can be fun to revel in the moment but also great to remember the constant struggle that we as individuals face in our task of repairing the world.

Celebrating New Years does not make you a bad person and does not make you a bad Jew. We are citizens of this country and residents of this world. As New Years is a significant date for most of the world, it is important for us as well. Whether through parties, resolutions, or just watching TV with friends and/or family, I hope this New Year ahead is a wonderful one filled with meaning, purpose, fulfillment, good health, and joy.

Religious School Update

by Maxine Fisher
Religious School Administrator

Some may think that January and February are quiet months, but we have a lot going on in Religious School!

We come back to school from Winter Recess on Sunday, January 5.

The Hebrew Chug (workshop) will resume on Thursday afternoons—January 9th and 23rd and February 27th as well as March 6th and 13th. We are still accepting students, and this is an excellent way for your child to receive extra help with their Hebrew. The chug meets from 4:15-5:15 P.M.

On Saturday, January 11 we will celebrate Shabbat together as a school with services at 10:30 A.M. led by Cantor Gordan. Cantor Gordan always does a wonderful job explaining the different parts of the service, so join us for this special service that is appropriate for all ages. Services will be followed by lunch.

We will celebrate Tu B'Shvat (the New Year of the trees) with a school-wide Seder on Sunday, January 12th. The children will leave the Seder with an understanding of how important trees are to Israel and us.

Cantor Gordan will lead the younger children (ages 2 - 8) and their families in a Shabbat service on Saturday, January 18th. This young family service is sponsored by the Kaplowitz- Boxer family.

Parent teacher conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, January 21st for grade Bet - Mitzvah Team and for Gan/Aleph on Sunday, January 26th. You will receive your child's progress report and time of your conference in the mail.

If you are interested in sending your child/ren to Jewish camp, we will have a **"Camp Meet and Greet"** on Sunday, January 26 with representatives from many Jewish day and overnight camps. Come down and check them out.

On Sunday, February 2nd the Vav and Mitzvah Team classes and parents will participate with the Men's club in the World Wide Wrap. Members of the congregation along with Men's Club will teach how to use teffilin. Breakfast will be served following the program.

As you can see, this is a very busy time for Religious School!

I want to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy secular New Year.



Early Childhood News

by Susie Meisler

Early Childhood News (con't)



His Mother Watched

By Jane E. Mackwood-Yazdpour

*As he grew his mother watched him
and*

*Found the things that he and
Only he could do.*

*She told him he was a prince to give
And so he gave his talent to the world.
And he was happy.*

And the world was too.

Wouldn't the world be a better place if all people knew and respected their own strengths and the strengths of others? What person was responsible in your life to help you understand your own personal gifts or did you come upon your strengths by accident? As I see it, all parents should be given a course in observing children so that through the years of parenting, a mother and father could help their child maximize full potential, build self-esteem and minimize any imitations he/she might have.

When my daughter Jamie was younger, she was extremely talented in the field of dance. She loved going to dancing school and so enjoyed the positive feedback from her teachers, my husband and me. As an Occupational Therapist today, Jamie uses dance in working with young children with special and unique needs. Although my younger daughter, Jodi, wanted to model herself after her sister, it was clear that dancing was not her forte. Jodi's strength was her logical thinking. She was a great problem solver, loved science and was fascinated with all sports statistics to the point of often stumping my husband (the renowned sport maniac) with sport trivia. My children were uniquely different and it took a lot of hard work as parents to bring out those unique strengths so they could come to value themselves and their abilities, and know they can compensate for their limitations.

When parents take time to observe their children, they can take the first step in identifying the possible areas of excellence that exist in each child. The next step is for the parents to make sure that they point out their child's strengths to him/her. Last, but not least, it is critical for parents to take the time to develop their own child's strengths.

Perhaps one of the most difficult challenges for parents in identifying a child's strong qualities is recognizing that his/her strengths may not be your own strengths. You might have a need for your child to love sports, but your child shows a talent in art. Many mothers have expressed a desire for their daughters to be interested in dance, but some prefer to play sports. Make sure that you put aside your own biases in order to see your child's strengths more clearly. As it was said by the Hasidic leader, Rabbi Zusya, "When I reach the world to come, God will not ask me why I wasn't more like Moses. He will ask me why I wasn't more like Zusya."

When observing your child, observe quietly. Watch your child in all types of situations and speak to as many people that know your child, such as teachers, grandparents, friends or babysitters to get a more comprehensive picture of just who your child is and what interests him/her. Speak to your child often so to you can discover in your conversations what interests or hobbies he/she finds exciting.

Look at all the strengths your child has and choose one or two that you would like your child to recognize in himself/herself. Give examples to back up your assertions about these gifts. "You were so thoughtful to make Grandma a card for her birthday." "Your drawings always have such wonderful detail." "I can't believe how much you have learned about bugs." Make sure that you yourself model accepting compliments with just a simple "thank you" so that you child can do the same. When you discount praise given to you by someone else, you teach your child to do the same.

If your child has a love for art, let your child make invitations for his/her birthday parties or hang up his/her drawings in a frame in various areas of the house, not just the refrigerator. Bring your child to the Museum of Natural History if he/she has a love for insects or dinosaurs, even if you have no interest in this subject. If you have a child who loves socializing and sports, sign him/her up for a sport team after school. However, whatever you do, don't force a child to do anything that he/she might not want to do or be ready for developmentally.

By allowing your child time to nurture and hone his/her own strengths, you are helping balance the areas in his/her life that are not as strong. A child who might have difficulty reading, playing sports because of poor motor coordination, or showing an inability to relate to their children, will need someone to step in and strengthen those skills. However, encouraging your child to pursue his/her real strengths will help balance your child's self image and prevent only seeing his/her limitations.

In my own pursuit of happiness, I have come to realize that true happiness is when you find your own personal gift and then you share that gift with others. It is our duty as parents to help children discover their gift and then step back to watch that gift unfold.



Downtown Northport after the New Year's storm.

Donations

צדקה

GENERAL FUND

Janet Zimmerman in memory of Lee Cole at *yahrzeit*.
Carol & Herman Adelstein in memory of Herman Adelstein at *yahrzeit*.
Gloria Safran in memory of Murray Safran at *yahrzeit*.
Gloria Safran in memory of Louis Stecker at *yahrzeit*.
Patricia Schoeffler in memory of Alexander Cochrane at *yahrzeit*.
Myrna Tils in memory of Jonas Telmer at *yahrzeit*.
Adrienne Rosof in memory of Sylvia Graf Baron at *yahrzeit*.
Andrea Morris in memory of Edith Forman at *yahrzeit*.
Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Ethel Wyatt at *yahrzeit*.
Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Irvin Epstein at *yahrzeit*.
Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Rose Epstein at *yahrzeit*.
Richard Klee in memory of Murray Klee at *yahrzeit*.
Marsha Perlmutter Kalina in memory of Blima Wolf at *yahrzeit*.
Judith & Arthur Schwager in memory of Arline Beldegreen at *yahrzeit*.
Tania & Marvin Lipkind in memory of Esther Lipkind at *yahrzeit*.
Mark Zimmerman in memory of Irvin Zimmerman at *yahrzeit*.
Shimmy Kornblatt in memory of Max Black at *yahrzeit*.
Carol & Howard Baker in memory of Abraham Baker at *yahrzeit*.
Pamela Geller in memory of Isaac Geller at *yahrzeit*.
Lee Pedowicz in memory of Jack Pedowicz at *yahrzeit*.
Howard Dubow in memory of Blanche Dubowsky at *yahrzeit*.
Dale & Phil Mintz in memory of Louis Mintz at *yahrzeit*.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Grace, daughter of Kim & Joe Willen.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Aaron, son of Simi & Paul Schwartz.
Ruth Wies in memory of Annie Cohen at *yahrzeit*.
Ethel Schwartz Bock in memory of David Schwartz at *yahrzeit*.
Steven Lax in memory of Harold Lax at *yahrzeit*.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Benjamin Barfus at *yahrzeit*.
Richard Wertheim in memory of Seymour Wertheim at *yahrzeit*.
Paulette Fritz Schiffman in memory of Charles Fritz at *yahrzeit*.
Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Michael Cohen at *yahrzeit*.
Randi & Alan Schuller in memory of Elaine Bodian at *yahrzeit*.
Esther Vickers in memory of Dora R. Molinoff at *yahrzeit*.
Rosalind & William Wertheim in honor of the engagement of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer, Jordana & Jacob in honor of the engagement of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer, Jordana & Jacob in honor of the birth of Martin Sebastian Bressler, grandson of Dorothy & Larry Tydings.
Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer, Jordana & Jacob in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Aaron, son of Simi & Paul Schwartz.
Mark Wax in memory of Irving Wax at *yahrzeit*.
Marilyn Koven in memory of Lillian Frank at *yahrzeit*.
Jeffrey Levitt in memory of Alfred Levitt at *yahrzeit*.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Linda & Howard Novick in memory of Rose Novick at *yahrzeit*.
Linda & Howard Novick in memory of David Novick at *yahrzeit*.
Seymour Libow in memory of Gordon Strenger, husband of Tyna Strenger.
Ethel Sachs in honor of the engagement of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Susan & Nat Board & family in memory of Murray Lipsky at *yahrzeit*.
Susan & Nat Board & family in memory of Sam Lipsky at *yahrzeit*.
Nathan Newman in memory of Anna Newman at *yahrzeit*.
Rene Levy in honor of the engagement of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Sue & David Lefkowitz with thanks to Rabbi Kurshan.
Kim, Joe & Grace Willen in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Aaron, son of Simi & Paul Schwartz.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Arlene Steinberg in memory of Polly Kurzer at *yahrzeit*.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Tom Rosen in memory of Ella Rosen Rakieten at *yahrzeit*.
Bea Pedowicz in memory of Jack Pedowicz at *yahrzeit*.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Ellis Kahn, grandson of Barry & Hilary Kaye.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Martin Sebastian Bressler, grandson of Dorothy & Larry Tydings.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of Rabbi Kurshan receiving the UJA Federation of New York Community Lifetime Achievement Award.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the engagement of David, son of Gail & Jerry Ellstein, to Erin Hall.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the engagement of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of the granddaughter of Ellen & Newt Meiselman.

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

The Behr family in memory of Helene Nedlin, sister of Susie Meisler.
Susie & Jay Meisler in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Grace, daughter of Kim & Joe Willen.
The Willen family in memory of Helene Nedlin, sister of Susie Meisler.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Joan and Norman Mattisinko in memory of Lillian Needleman at *yahrzeit*.

Donations

צדקה

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Gloria Safran

Eileen & Harvey Berger

Ethan Auslander

Marilyn Johnson

Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in honor of the engagement of David, son of Gail & Jerry Ellstein, to Erin Hall.

Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in honor of the birth of Penelope Lily Silver, granddaughter of Debbie & Richard Rosenkrantz.

Gail & Jim Lodge in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Adina, daughter of Michele Baltus.

Gail & Jim Lodge in memory of Gordon Strenger, husband of Tyna Strenger.

Gail & Jim Lodge in memory of Helene Nedlin, sister of Susie Meisler.

Gail Lodge in memory of Lillian Grunberger at yahrzeit.

Gail Lodge in memory of Jack Grunberger at yahrzeit.

June Reiner in memory of Max Reiner at yahrzeit.

Rosalyn Haber in memory of Betty Simon at yahrzeit.

Marsha Buchholtz in memory of Fanny Wolinsky at yahrzeit.

Rene Levy in memory of Rose Zucker at yahrzeit.

Ellen Kahn in memory of Gordon Strenger, husband of Tyna Strenger.

The Behr family in memory of Joni Woronoff-Turo at yahrzeit.

Tara & Brad Kerner in honor of Gordon Kerner.

President's Perspective con't from page 6

raucous party of candles, especially on the eighth night, with 27 or 36 or even 45 candles ablaze.

We also try to be sure we have our assortment of traditional foods. We have latkes, of course, trying to put them out on the table on a plate together but always failing, as they get eaten almost straight from the pan. They're never quite as good as my grandmother's, but they're not bad. Rosalind always brings home sufganiyot from the City, once or twice. Ariel typically reminisces about how good the sufganiyot were in Israel for Hanukah, and while granting that the ones we get are tasty, they lack some of the more creative fillings they had (he describes the caramel-filled ones rapturously). The rest of us are content with wiping the jelly from our chins. We sing some Hanukah songs, looking up the lyrics we always seem to forget (we have a particularly hard time remembering all the words to Mi Yimalel). Then there is the gelt, and an attempt at playing dreidel, which typically results in my losing, and just a general happy sense in the house.

So this year, with Hanukah falling so early, the menorahs were long put away and the sufganiyot long eaten by the time the rest of the world started their celebrations. I recall when my children were small, they had a hard time contending with the appeal and fun they felt they were missing on Christmas. We tried hard to give them a sense of the specialness of our own holidays—who, for instance, of their Christian friends could boast a Passover Seder like we have? Now that they are older, and are more knowledgeable about our family and our Jewish traditions, they don't feel that sense of missing out. I'm happy about that. And I am happy that Hanukah fell so early this year, allowing us to enjoy the holiday before the intensity of the Christian holidays overwhelmed everything else.

On a different topic, I want to remind everyone of our upcoming, re-scheduled events. With early snows, we had to shuffle around a couple of December events—the Adult Education program led by Ken Bob, and the Saturday Night at the Movies. I hope that the December precipitation does not portend a snowy, icy winter, but if it does, we'll have to be flexible. I also want to put a plug in for everyone to complete the upcoming Bulletin survey. As you may recall, at last year's Congregational Meeting the membership agreed to make the Bulletin all-electronic this year. I said I will survey the membership to see how it was received, and I will be sending out the survey both electronically and on paper in January. I know a number of you feel very strongly about this, and I want to encourage everyone to let their opinions be heard. While there is a savings with having the Bulletin electronically distributed rather than on paper, the most important thing is to ensure that the Bulletin is accessible, available, and in an appealing format so everyone can access the information. Our Bulletin is visually extremely appealing—thank you Kim!—and we want to make sure that whether the best format is digital or on paper—everyone can enjoy it. So please, when you see the survey, return it promptly!

Happy 2014!

B'shalom,

Billy

HJC Adult Education, Family Life Committee & Rabbi Kurshan present



SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

FILMS ABOUT FATHERS & SONS

**SATURDAY EVENING,
FEBRUARY 1, 2014 AT 7:30 PM**

“FOOTNOTE”

The movie will be followed by a discussion led by Rabbi Kurshan



Refreshments will be served



~ BYOKB ~

Adults, Bring Your Own Kosher Bottle

***** Please also note the new venue*****

The movie will be shown on our new full-sized screen in the Social Hall

~~~~ FOR THE CHILDREN ~~~~

Drop the kids off at 7:15 pm in their favorite PJ's

~ BYOKB ~

Children: Bring Your Own "Kozy" Blanket

Wear your PJ's, bring a sleeping bag/pillow, ask a friend.

Child supervision & snacks provided at no charge

RSVP to Debbie 427-1089x10 or debbier@hjcny.org to ensure adequate supervision

There is no admission charge

Saturday Night at the Movies Chairpersons: Michelle Stack & Donna Zimmerman





This Month in American Jewish History

An Open Letter

*Signed by 119 Outstanding Gentile Citizens and first published
in the New York Times of January 17, 1921. Initiated by John Spargo*

The undersigned, citizens of Gentile birth and Christian faith, view with profound regret and disapproval the appearance in this country of what is apparently an organized campaign of anti-Semitism, conducted in close conformity to and co-operation with similar campaigns in Europe. We regret exceedingly the publication of a number of book pamphlets and newspaper articles designed to foster distrust and suspicion of our fellow-citizens of Jewish ancestry and faith—distrust and suspicion of their loyalty and patriotism.

These publications, to which wide circulation is being given, are thus introducing into our national political life a new and dangerous spirit, one that is wholly at variance with our traditions and ideals and subversive of our system of government. American citizenship and American democracy are thus challenged and menaced. We protest against this organized campaign of prejudice and hatred, not only because of its manifest injustice to those against whom it is directed, but also and especially, because we are convinced that it is wholly incompatible with loyal and intelligent American citizenship. The logical outcome of the success of such a campaign must necessarily be the division of our citizens along racial and religious lines, and ultimately, the introduction of religious tests and qualifications to determine citizen-ship.

The loyalty and patriotism of our fellow-citizens of the Jewish faith is equal to that of any part of our people, and requires no defense at our hands. From the foundation of this Republic down to the World War, men and women of Jewish ancestry and faith have taken an honorable part in building up this great nation and maintaining its prestige and honor among the nations of the world. There is not the slightest justification, therefore, for a campaign of anti-Semitism in this country.

Anti-Semitism is almost invariably associated with lawlessness and with brutality and injustice. It is also invariably found closely inter-twined with other sinister forces, particularly those which are corrupt, reactionary and oppressive.

We believe it should not be left to men and women of Jewish faith to fight this evil, but that it is in a very special sense the duty of citizens who are not Jews by ancestry or faith. We therefore make earnest protest against this vicious propaganda, and call upon our fellow-citizens of Gentile birth and Christian faith to unite their efforts to ours, to the end that it may be crushed. In particular, we call upon those who are molders of public opinion—the clergy and ministers of all Christian churches, publicists, teachers, editors and statesmen—to strike at this un-American and un-Christian agitation.

The undersigned:

Woodrow Wilson
William Howard Taft
Wm. Cardinal O'Connell
Lyman Abbott
Jane Addams
John S. Agar
Newton D. Baker
Ray Stannard Baker
James M. Beck

Charles A. Beard
Bernard I. Bell
Arthur E. Bestor
Albert J. Beveridge
Mabel T. Boardman
Evangeline Booth
Benjamin Brewster
Chauncey B. Brewster
Jeffrey R. Brackett

Horace J. Bridges
Henry Bruere
William Jennings Bryan
Nicholas Murray Butler
Bainbridge Colby
Alice B. Coleman
George W. Coleman
Paul D. Cravath
George Creel

Samuel Chord Crothers
Olive Tilford Dargan
R. Fulton Cutting
Clarence Darrow
James R. Day
Henry S. Dennison
W.E.B. Dubois
James Duncan
Robert Erskine Ely
Charles P. Fagnani
W.H.P. Fawnce
Dorothy Canfield Fisher
Irving Fisher
John Ford
Raymond B. Fosdick
Robert Frost
H. A. Garfield
James R. Garfield
Lindley M. Garrison
John Palmer Gavit
Herbert Adams Gibbons
Charles Dana Gibson
Franklin H. Giddings
Martin H. Glynn
George Gray
Edward Everett Hale
James Hartness
Patrick J. Hayes
John Grier Hibbon
Jesse H. Holmes
John Haynes Holmes
Hamilton Holt

Ernest Martin Hopkins
Frederic C. Howe
Henry C. Idle
Inez Haynes Irwin
Will Irwin
George R. James
David Starr Jordan
William W. Keen
Paul U. Kellogg
William Sergeant Kendall
George Kennan
Henry Churchill King
Darwin P. Kingsley
W. P. Ladd
Ira Landrith
Franklin K. Lane
Robert Lansing
Julia C. Lathrop
Ben B. Lindsley
Charles H. Levermore
Frederick Lynch
Edwin Markham
Mrs. Edwin Markham
Daniel Gregory Mason
Joseph Ernest McAfee
J. F. McElwain
Raymond McFarland
E. T. Meredith
James F. Minturn
John Moody
William Fellows Morgan
Charles Clayton Morrison

Philip Stafford Moxom
Joseph Fort Newton
D. J. O'Connell
Mary Boyle O'Reilly
George Wharton Pepper
Louis F. Post
Theodore Roosevelt
Charles Edward Russell
Jacob Gould Schurman
Vida D. Scudder
Samuel Seabury
Thomas J. Shahan
Charles M. Sheldon
Edwin E. Slosson
Preston Slosson
Robert E. Speer
Charles Stelzle
Paul Moore Strayer
Marion Talbot
Ida M. Tarbell
Harry F. Ward
Everett P. Wheller
Gaylord S. White
George W. Wickersham
Charles David Williams
Carles Zueblin
John Spargo

Editor's note: *The virulently anti-Semitic and wholly fictitious "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," which originated in Russia at the beginning of the 20th century, found its way to America during the "First Red Scare," of 1917-20. Some publications replaced the Jews with communists in their editions, conflating Judaism and communism, and villainizing American Jews, especially of Eastern European origin. Violence and harsh discrimination were common in our land. The Protocols were widely read in military and diplomatic circles and gave rise to the State Department's tilt toward the Arab world and anti-Zionism - a tilt that lasted for a century. John Spargo was one of the founders of the American socialist and progressive movements. He eventually broke with the left and became a Republican and outspoken anti-communist. You can identify all the signers and find the full text of the Times' article, as well as separate letters by the President and clergy at:*
<http://query.nytimes.com/mem/archive-free/pdf?res=F10F10F93D5D14738DDDAE0994D9405B818EF1D3>

**You are cordially invited to make the
Ben Tasman Library part of your experience at HJC!**

The Ben Tasman Library is for *you* – the HJC synagogue family. Browse our expanding fiction collection, thumb through a magazine, learn about someone among the many biographies, look for new recipes, see the Tanach translated into Yiddish - the reference section is extraordinary. Expand your knowledge with our collection of books on Israel, the Arts, Judaism, Jewish Holidays, Humor, the Holocaust, Philosophy and much more!

Take out a book for your reading pleasure. Take a book off the shelf, write your name date on the card in back of the book, leave the card in the box provided and return the book in 3 weeks and a new book in 2 weeks. It's that simple!

Check our newest additions as well as our "Wish List" – what a wonderful way to celebrate or commemorate! Book plates are waiting to be inscribed. Yiddish classes are expected to be offered this fall, and our religious school students will be utilizing laptops in the library as part of their curriculum. The new furniture which has been purchased has made the library a warm and inviting place to sit quietly and think, away from the usual distractions and...

Of course, we need you to do more than simply use the library – we need you to own it! It is a warm and wonderful place where there is still much to be done and so much to be offered.

Beginning Sept. 8th, hours of the Ben Tasman library will be:

Monday –Thursday: 8:45am-6:00pm

Friday: 8:45am-3:00pm

Sunday: 8:30am -1:00pm

*Please contact Syd Schlesinger for suggestions, information, or to volunteer.
631-621-2330/syd519@gmail.com*



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510 Park Avenue Huntington, NY 11743 (631) 427-1089

is hosting a

*** * SUMMER CAMP FAIR * ***

**Sunday, January 26th
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An informal "Meet & Greet" to learn more about local
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*Religious school offers Jewish programming 10 months out of
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Help kick-start the event
of the year!
Be a sponsor and get
the BALL rolling.

Our Purim Ball is Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 9pm

The Queen Esther Sponsor:

This is one opportunity to have the whole ball named in honor or memory of a loved one. Sponsorship includes vocal recognition as the named sponsor of the event, top billing on marketing materials, signage and court seating for 2, with personal waitstaff. This is a donation of \$3600.

The Mordechai Sponsors:

2 opportunities - The Mordechai sponsors will help us forget about Haman by sponsoring our bar! Sponsorship includes vocal recognition, court seating for 2 and displayed signage at the ball. This is a donation of \$1000.

The Achashverosh Sponsors:

Multiple opportunities to make sure we feast like kings by sponsoring our delectable foods and desserts! Sponsorship includes vocal recognition, court seating for 2, personal waitstaff and displayed signage at the ball. Donation of \$500.

The Vashti Sponsors:

Multiple opportunities to sponsor our entertainment for the evening! We have an amazing band lined up and we hope we have enough sponsors for the mingling magicians and jugglers. Sponsorship includes vocal recognition and signage at the ball, with court seating for 2. Donation of \$360.

King Achashverosh's Court:

36 Premium tickets are available for presale! These tickets include a hand decorated mask and premium seating at our "reserved" tables in the King's court. Donation of \$100 per person.

****Now accepting raffle basket donations***

All proceeds of the Purim Ball **FUN**draiser will benefit the HJC.

Contact: Michelle Behr
michelle.behr11@gmail.com
516-286-3102

Library News



The Ben Tasman Library...a warm and wonderful place to come in out of the cold. Read a magazine, check out *The Forward* or one of the books we are recommending...

ADULT BOOK PICK

Joy Comes in the Morning by Jonathan Rosen
(Fiction)

Deborah Green is a woman of passionate contradictions – a rabbi who craves goodness while wrestling with her own desires, sorrow and pain. Her life changes when she visits the hospital room of Henry Friedman. This selection was a former HJC Book Club read and highly acclaimed *NY Times* recommended book!

CHILDREN'S /YOUNG ADULT BOOK PICK

Hanna's Sabbath Dress by Itzhak Schweiger-Dmi'el
(Ages 4-8)

Hanna had a beautiful new dress to wear for the Sabbath. Hanna gets herself into a situation and her dress is covered with black stains. Just when she thinks that her dress and the Sabbath are ruined, the rising moon comes to her aid in a surprising and delightful way. Beautiful, distinctive artwork gives life to this heartwarming story!

Once by Morris Gleitzman
(Ages 11+)

Once I escaped from an orphanage to find Mum and Dad.
Once I saved a girl called Zelda from a burning house.
Once I made a Nazi with a toothache laugh.
My name is Felix. This is my story.



The Great HJC Hamantashen Sale



Purim begins Saturday evening, March 15th and Sisterhood is once again busy in the kitchen baking delicious Hamantashen (all dairy)!

Available Flavors

Raspberry

Apricot

Prune

Chocolate



Nutella

(contains nuts)

Poppy Seed



Apple

If you could spare an hour or two to mix, roll or fill,
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Use the handy tear sheet below to submit your orders to
the HJC office. Please send payment with your order.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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<u>Flavor</u>	<u># of Dozen</u>	<u>Total @ \$10/dz.</u>
Raspberry	_____	_____
Apricot	_____	_____
Prune	_____	_____
Chocolate	_____	_____
Nutella	_____	_____
Apple	_____	_____
Poppy Seed	_____	_____

THE HJC KITCHEN IS NOT NUT-FREE PLEASE ORDER ACCORDINGLY

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type in "Huntington Hebrew Congregation" as charity of your choice (it comes up as, Huntington Hebrew Congregation of), push the "select" button, and shop away!

This will work after Chanukah as well.....

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home: 631-424-2954

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home: 631-424-2254

Rachel Moss cell: 631-944-1420
home: 631-385-3103

Bianca Gordon cell: 516-580-2534
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Editor Kim Willen kwillen@mac.com

The Huntington Jewish Center is a member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Established in 1907, the HJC provides a wide range of programs, reaching out to all of our members and the community. Our Daily Minyan, Sisterhood, Chai Club, Family Life, Men's Club and the award winning Religious School and Nursery School Programs are a few of our outstanding activities.

We welcome your participation.



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