



HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

INNOVATE & INTEGRATE - CREATING COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

Tevet/Shevat 5772

January/February 2012

Why I Come to Shabbat Morning Services and Why You Should Come Too By Rabbi Neil Kurshan



I am sure that that if I asked most of the younger students in our RS why I spend two hours every week at Shabbat morning services, they would say because you are the rabbi, and you

have to go to services. While in a sense they are right, I would go to services even if I were not “the rabbi”. Of course, I have no way of proving this although I did continue to attend Shabbat services regularly during my sabbatical several years ago, and I generally try to search out services at new synagogues when I am on vacation.

The strongest proof I can offer is to speak to those things which draw me to Shabbat services which I believe would attract me even if I were not a rabbi. First I enjoy the music of our services. Cantor Gordan’s melodies are engaging and draw me into the singing and davening as they do everyone else. Most are the traditional melodies and nusach that we have used for years, but Cantor Gordan has introduced some new melodies, a number of them from the independent minyan that are drawing thousands of young Jews to services throughout the United States. It is nice to know that we have begun including some of the melodies that are beginning to find their way into mainstream synagogues and that our young people will hear when they participate in their own Jewish communities as college students and young adults.

Secondly I come to shul Shabbat morning because I enjoy studying Torah, and I like the intellectual stimulation of the Torah discussions. Now perhaps being a rabbi does

make a difference because I get to choose the discussion topics, but far more than I enjoy hearing myself speak, I learn from the comments of others. I almost always come away provoked by something someone has said, and as much as I enjoy the spiritual elements of the music and the davening, I also like the mental stimulation of the discussion.

Third I like connecting with people. This community is composed of a very diverse group of people, and the schmoozing at the Kiddush is always interesting. I never know what will be the subject of a conversation—Israel, Judaism, the Jewish community or something having nothing to do with Judaism such as reactions to the newest movie at the Cinema Arts Center. And, of course, the Kiddush is the place where I will often hear about the births, engagements, marriages and other smachot in the community. I look forward to spending time with the people about whom I care.

And lastly I come for the food. Now if this were the only reason I came to shul, I would be embarrassed to admit this, but since this is only one of the reasons, I think it is OK to confess to an enthusiasm for our Kiddushes. HJC Kiddushes range from the traditional Kiddushes prepared by Sisterhood to the creative organic kiddushes prepared by Joanne Cohn. At what other synagogue Kiddush can you find on any given week rhubarb/raspberry pie, fish chowder, vegetarian cholent, and macaroni and cheese made with beer. If there were a Zagat guide of synagogue kiddushes, I have no doubt that we would be given the top rating for creativity and quality of food

So all these elements make for an interesting Shabbat morning experience—the spiritual, the intellectual, the social, and the gastronomic. It is not always easy to get up early on a Shabbat morning, but every week I come away feeling that it beats staying in bed.

So that is why I believe I would still come to shul even if I were not a rabbi. And if we have not seen you recently on Shabbat morning, I hope you will consider giving it a try, too.



Hey students visit the Jewish museum.

Adult Education



SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: THE AFTERLIFE



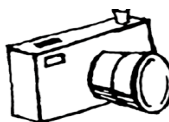
Saturday evenings January 7 and February 11 at 7:30 pm in the Family Life Center

Instructor: Rabbi Neil Kurshan

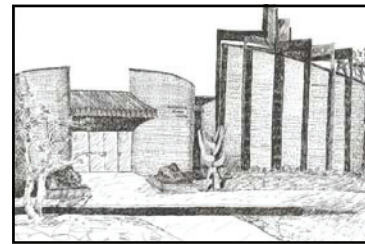
We will watch two more critically acclaimed films about the afterlife, a topic often ignored in Jewish studies. "Defending Your Life" is a popular and commercially successful film starring Albert Brooks and Meryl Streep, depicting the journey of two individuals who fall in love while being judged for admission to the world to come. "After Life," perhaps the best "heaven" movie, depicts those who have recently died trying to select one favorite memory to take with them to eternity.

Refreshments will be served and there will be a parallel children's movie shown in the gym with babysitting. **BYOKB: Children - Bring Your Own "Komfy" Blanket; Adults - Bring Your Own Kosher Bottle.**

Attention all HJC Members PHOTOS WANTED



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



Neil Kurshan, Rabbi
423-5355

Israel Gordan, Cantor
427-1089, ext. 22

Sue Meisler
Nursery School Director
425-0525

Mitch Pashkin
President
427-1089

Maxine Fisher
Religious School Director
427-1157

Jane Hallberg
Administrator
427-1089 ext. 23

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Mitch Pashkin, President

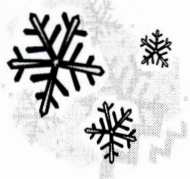
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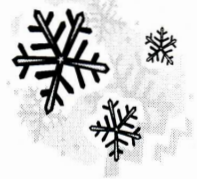
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Bulletin.....	Kim Willen
Calendar.....	Gwen Goldstein
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Chai Club.....	Sy Schpoont
Congregational Dinners.....	Michelle Stack & Joanne Cohen
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Friday Night Live.....	
Greeters.....	Maxine Fisher
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Innovate & Integrate.....	Michelle Stack
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Religious School Board.....	Sheri Bram
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Special Arrangements.....	Vered Cole & David Walsdorf
Sunshine.....	Kim Willen
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Technology.....	Jeff Stark
Tree of Life.....	Tom Rosen
UJA.....	Scott Ingber
Youth.....	Shari Klair
Youth Advisor.....	Elana Marcus



January 2012

Tevet/Shevat 5772



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NO Religious School	2 NO Nursery School	3 Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah w/Rabbi 10:30am Hebrew Chug 6:30-7:30pm	4 Social Action 1pm	5	6 Minyan Breakfast Shabbat Services 6pm	7 <i>Bat Mitzvah Jessica Berman</i> Sat. Night at the Movies - 7:30pm Veyechi
8 10am Mitzvah Team Leadership workshop <i>Me Speaker</i> 9:30am RS Board Meeting 11:45am Daled trip Kad/USY	9 NS Parent Ass. 9:45am Sisterhood Board Meeting 8:00pm	10 Chaverim 6:15 Hebrew Chug 6:30-7:30pm	11 HIHI	12	13 Shabbat Services 6pm	14 Shemot
15 NO Religious School	16 NO Nursery School Main Office Closed Martin Luther King Day	17 Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah w/Rabbi 10:30am Hebrew Chug 6:30-7:30pm	18	19 2013 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parent Meeting-8pm w/ Rabbi	20 Shabbat Services 6pm	21 <i>Bat Mitzvah Hannah Schoeffler</i> Va'era
22 9:30am – Vav workshop Parent Teacher Conference Gan—Alef With child programming 2pm Ice Skating	23	24 RS Parent Teacher Conferences—5:45 early dismissal Chaverim	25 Rosh Chodesh	26 Cooking 4:30-6pm	27 Shabbat Services 6pm	28 Bo
29 9am Hey Kosher workshop 9:30am Vav Workshop Family Bowling 2:00pm	30	31 Hebrew Chug 6:30-7:30pm				

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

by Mitch Pashkin



"Returning Next Bulletin"
The President's article will return in the next issue.



USY NEWS

by Josh Morris

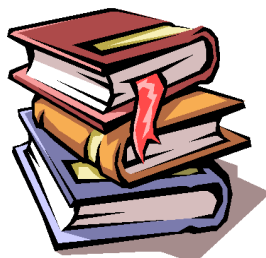
This past weekend, many of our USYers helped out by babysitting during the temple-wide movie night. Additionally, you can find many of our chapter members roaming the halls during Tuesday and Sunday Hebrew school, always willing to help out.

A popular past chapter event was "Name That Tune" in which teams picked to name a song from a Rock and Roll, Pop, R&B and Songs Your Parents Would Know category. Although many tested their luck in the Songs Your Parents Would Know category, the most success was witnessed in the pop category.

This upcoming weekend, our chapter hopes to organize a "Casinakah" event. This event would feature our chapter members as dealers and USYers from various other chapters such as East Northport as the evening's gamblers, gambling with gelt of course. This event would be a SA/TO event, or social action and tikun olam raising money for a charity to be decided. We are hoping to see as much attendance as possible in order to make this night as success!

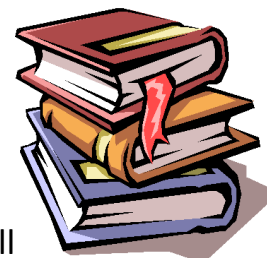
Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all.

Parents of Hey students at the Jewish Museum.



Library News

HJC LIBRARY TO OPEN SOON



Exciting progress has been made through summer and the fall
The roof has been repaired and fresh paint is on the wall
New carpeting still to be installed and shelving put in place
Cataloguing of books and reorganizing of space...

...we are moving even closer to the reopening of the HJC library through the hard work and dedication of a few volunteers. The library will soon become a vibrant part of the synagogue where you will be able to read, study, research, relax, and expand your knowledge.

Volunteers are still needed! There is still so much yet to be done and any help would be greatly appreciated. If you are computer savvy or have knowledge of library science, or just want to be part of this project - we need you!

If you cannot donate your time, please consider donating to the Library Fund.

To volunteer or for more information, please contact:
Syd Schlesinger at syd519@gmail.com/631-261-2330

HJC Community News

Yashir Kochach to this month's Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

Hannah Schoeffler Daughter of Patricia and Dan Schoeffler



Hannah is a seventh grader at the Solomon Schechter Day School of Nassau County. She is a great student and very involved in school sports, particularly basketball. Hannah is a creative thinker with a warm heart. She is fun to be with and has the best sense of humor. Her wide range of interests include cooking (her four course meals are legendary!), Camp Ramah, traveling, tennis, reading, and caring for animals (especially her two dogs).

As Hannah becomes a Bat Mitzvah, her Mum, Dad, and brothers, Sam and Nathan, are extremely proud of her. They look forward to celebrating with her and rejoicing in this important milestone in her life.

Jessica Berman Daughter of Cheryl and Peter Berman



Jessica is a High Honor Roll Student at Elwood Middle School. Her passion is dance and she enjoys showcasing her talents in the HJC Musicals as well as while performing as a member of the competition team for Emilia's Dance Studio. Mom Cheryl, dad Peter, and sister Gabby are proud of all her accomplishments as she becomes a Bat Mitzvah, but are especially proud of the person she is.



Mazel Tov

Rabbi Neil and Alisa Kurshan announce the engagement of their daughter, Ariella, to Leo Simonovich
Vicki & Arthur Perler announce the birth of their grandson, Lev Cameron Perler

We extend our sincere condolences to...

Alan Schuller on the death of his father, Gary Schuller
Nancy Bob on the death of her mother, June Philips
Pamela Geller on the death of her mother, Gertrude Hofbauer
Renda Rosenblatt on the death of her father, Henry Lederman

Creamy Hot Chocolate



Ingredients

1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
3/4 cup white sugar
1 pinch salt
1/3 cup boiling water
3 1/2 cups milk
3/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 cup half-and-half cream

Directions

Combine the cocoa, sugar and pinch of salt in a saucepan. Blend in the boiling water. Bring this mixture to an easy boil while you stir. Simmer and stir for about 2 minutes. Watch that it doesn't scorch. Stir in 3 1/2 cups of milk and heat until very hot, but do not boil! Remove from heat and add vanilla. Divide between 4 mugs. Add the cream to the mugs of cocoa to cool it to drinking temperature.



A Year of Firsts by Israel Gordon



This is a year of many firsts for me. Since this is not only my first year as the Cantor of the Huntington Jewish Center, but my first year as a Cantor period; every event of the year is my first time going through and experiencing it. I'd like to talk about two of those recent events and why they are so gratifying to me as a person, and especially to me as a member of the clergy.

At the end of November, the town of Huntington held its 40th annual Interfaith Thanksgiving service at St. John's Episcopal Church in the center of town. There was an impressive array of faith traditions represented as each clergy-person read or chanted from a text or prayer from his/her tradition including Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Unitarian, Jain, Buddhist, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim, and many others. There were two adult choirs and one dance troupe as well, but we were the only congregation to have a youth choir perform (which was nice for us; please see the related photo).

It was great to be a part of the wider Huntington community and celebrate together in such a uniquely American way, both our commonalities as well as our differences. It was also amazing to see what a central role that music plays throughout various traditions, from the muezzin's call to prayer, to the traditional chanting of Torah, to the Unitarian choir. No matter a person's faith background, there is something special about music and the way it can touch our souls and help us to communicate with the Divine.

This was also true during our first Friday Night Live of the year. If you weren't able to join us, on December 9th we held services in the round in the Kiddush Lounge followed by a communal Shabbat dinner in the social hall. Although a lot of the music from Friday Night Live is the same as the tunes we use during our regular Friday night services, there is something unique to the setting and the expectations involved, that allow for a more relaxed atmosphere and a more intimate gathering, despite our larger numbers.

Joyous and relaxed singing was joined by dancing at one point of the service and you could hear and feel both the excitement of celebrating the beauty of Shabbat in the community as well as the relief of making it to the end of another week. The dinner that followed was not only delicious, but a wonderful way for people to come together and enjoy time in the synagogue that was basically "hanging out" around good food. I'm sure that most people would agree that in addition to music, food is a way that we can engage ourselves with others and use it in our quest for the Divine.

I'd like to see more of this kind of gathering in our community in the months and years ahead. While it does require a great amount of planning and work and we have to thank everyone involved for making it possible, it often seems well worth the effort and I look forward to doing it again soon!



Cantor Gordon and students at the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service.

Alyson Richman to speak



February 7 - 8 pm

This young author of historical novels has already written four novels with her latest *The Lost Wife* getting widespread acclaim, especially, but not solely in the Jewish community. She is a graduate of Wellesley and has two young children, both part of the HJC nursery school. This book has been translated into 13 languages, is on the Best Seller List and has been chosen for the 2012 Long Island Reads Selection. This book was inspired by a true story and it will be an evening to listen, learn and ask lots of questions. There will be books available for purchase that evening, and if you already have the book Alyson will be happy to autograph it. Because we expect a large turnout we really need your response so we can properly prepare for this event. Please respond to:

Syd519@gmail.com, or by phone 631-261-2330

I look forward to seeing you there - Syd Schlesinger





Hear Ye. . . . Hear Ye

Your Dues For
2011- 2012 are due NOW



Book and Author

February 7th at 8 P.M.

Nursery School parent Alyson Richman will speak about her book "The Lost Wife" which has received numerous accolades. "...A love story wrapped in tragedy and survival."

Don't miss this unique presentation!



Do you shop at Waldbaum's or Pathmark? Why not use Scrip from Sisterhood?

Your participation enables Sisterhood to continue it's varied efforts on behalf of our HJC congregation.

For further information call Hannah Kampel,
(631) 423 6575.



Save the date

March 29th

For a Taste of Passover

Enjoy the tastes and receive new, exciting recipes!



HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER MEN'S CLUB

PRESENTS



Sunday, January 8, 2012

Time: 9:15am

FAMILY LIFE ROOM

Following the movie (Run time: 70 minutes) there will be a discussion led by Rabbi Kurshan.

ABOUT THE MOVIE, "Five Friends": American writer and philosopher, Elbert Hubbard, said, "My father always used to say that when you die, if you've got five real friends, you've had a great life." *Five Friends* is the story of how one man sought to live that life. *Five Friends* captures the story of a 65-year-old man and his five friends as they reflect on their lives together support each other in personal struggle and mine the depths of meaningful friendship. Success, conflict, marriage, divorce, fatherhood, children and dying - *Five Friends* is a ground-breaking documentary that forces the conversation and explores what it means for men to be loving, transparent and vulnerable with each other.

All men of the congregation are invited to this event.

Due to the subject matter of the movie, and the discussion to follow, this Men's Club presentation is only open to the MALE members of the congregation. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, and appreciate your understanding.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact

Eric Gemunder

E-mail: eric723@hotmail.com

Cell Phone: 516-978-5237

NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

By Sue Meisler, Director



I recently read an interesting article in About.com written by Lauren DiMaria, entitled "Learned Helplessness in Children." She defines this behavior as such, "Learned helplessness describes the behavior that follows when uncontrollable events lead to the expectation that future events will also be uncontrollable. Essentially, the child feels like there is nothing he can do to change the outcome of an event, so he might as well not even try."

After 42 years in education I have become a much wiser educator by encouraging teachers to develop in their students a sense of competence and self-confidence. Making children take care of their own needs will hopefully have them avoid this sense of learned helplessness. The pre-school educators at HJC have noticed a trend where children seem reluctant to think on their own, problem solve and persevere in attacking new skills. Many students we work with wait for us to do things for them, such as hang their coats up in the cubbies, open their juice boxes, etc. or give them the answers to questions they should know by the daily routines in the class. This started the teachers in our school on a path to become more cognizant of not doing the tasks for children. Instead the teachers break down developmentally appropriate tasks step by step so that our students can learn how to do tasks and accomplish them on their own.

I can still recall the number of times I went to school to bring my children the lunch that they forgot at home. What was I teaching them? I was teaching them that Mommy will always be there to come to the rescue whenever they made mistakes. With hindsight, it took me a long time to embrace the concept that if they went hungry for lunch one day, they just might not forget their lunch the next time. It just might happen as well that someone at school would have generously given my child some part of his/her lunch which would once again have allowed my child to understand the idea that when crummy things happen, there are lots of different ways to fix them.

Our job as parents and teachers is to help children grow up as fully functioning adults who have successful relationships and careers. Of course it is critical that we, as parents, reflect on our own behavior first as we are a child's first role model. If we are responsible adults, then it will be easier for our children to become responsible adults as well. In a recent article I read several suggestions to putting children on the path to responsible independence were given. Here is what was suggested:

1. Give children age-appropriate tasks to do. For example, my 3 year-old grandson is responsible for clearing all the spoons and forks from the table each night and placing them in the dishwasher, while my 7 year-old granddaughter clears the plates, glasses and the knives from the table to be put in the dishwasher as well. The message to children should be that everyone in the family unit has jobs to do and when everyone works together, there is more time to play and have fun together at the end of the day.

2. Always make sure that the tasks you give are such that your

child can successfully at. If you give too many tasks the child may feel overwhelmed and quit altogether. When praising a child, just describe what you saw him/her do, for example, "Thank you Josh for picking up the toys from the floor. Now no one will fall over them. You made us all feel safe." Thank your child for being a valued part of your family. The reward for tasks achieved should be time spent together .

3. Make sure that you have clear positive expectations that your child will complete the tasks in the acceptable time frame you have set forth. When we expect positive behavior from children, they usually perform positively.

4. If a child does something irresponsibly, ask the child what he/she thinks would be a good way to correct the mistake. This helps children to problem solve on their own.

5. Try not to rush in to save your child. For example, in our school we give the children the responsibility to bring library books back the day before their next library time. If the child does not bring a book back, they are not allowed to take another book out until it is returned. Many parents rush back to school to return the book or argue with us that this policy is not fair. This is encouraging a child to not to be accountable for his/her actions. I tell the parents to ask the child what they could do next time to remember to bring the book back on time. Even a 3 year old will reply, "Maybe we can write this down so we don't forget again."

6. How will the teacher know if your child is still not getting the lesson taught if they bring in homework successfully completed by you? The long range problem with this is that when your child does goes to college, who will they get to do their work then? When your child is struggling with homework, it is the job of the teacher, not parent, to come forward to help. This will also let your child know that seeking out assistance from other people is an acceptable way to solve dilemmas.

7. Teach your child to manage money. When children learn that they should not spend money they don't have, they will become more understanding of being a fiscally responsible adult later on. When children receive allowance, or gift money, they should also know that some of the money should be set aside for charity and savings.

8. Show children the importance of volunteering to help others. Each year, my son-in-law takes my granddaughter to the City-Year Volunteer Program for a day of helping other less fortunate. My granddaughter learned how to paint school walls in the city schools in the Brooklyn when she was 4 and has gone back each year with her dad to help the needy in some capacity. By helping others, self-esteem in small children develops. Young children are often told that they are too little to help and this is one way they can see themselves as capable of doing more than they or others think.

When parents do too much for their children, they can't develop the confidence that they can meet challenges on their own, and come to over-rely on their parents. This can interfere with responsible decision making. Children need to learn from their mistakes. Letting children be late for school after they dawdled at home in the morning is a natural consequence that will better allow the child to manage their time better the next day. At our school, teachers are now allowing children to open their own lunch boxes, cut their own plastic yogurt tubes, clean up spilled milk, and put their lunch boxes back in their own back packs. Although there are still children who



Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative

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

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

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

1. Set-up from 4-5:30 PM involves setting up the sleeping bags and toilet articles, setting the tables and putting out snacks and drinks. This is a good job for young people

2. Prepare dinner in HJC Kitchen. This should be done late in the afternoon before the guests arrive or on the prior day. These details are still being worked out.

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

3. Serve dinner and clean-up from 5:30-7 pm
4. Chaperones 7:30-12 MN and 12 MN-5 am. There is always a paid chaperone from the Family Service League from 7:30 pm on. The guests go to sleep around 8:30-9 pm.

5. Provide breakfast items
6. Prepare and Serve Breakfast and morning clean-up 5-7 am the next morning.

7. Laundry needs to be brought to Laundromat and then back to HJC

8. Prepare bag lunches at HJC to be given to the men when they leave in the morning. Good opportunity for kids/youth group. Again, ingredients supplied by the families.

9. Anyone with special skills such as ESL, haircuts, podiatrists, dentist, etc

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

Ellen Steinberg at 516 971-4983

or

Ellen.steinberg728@gmail.com or

Karen Flanzenbaum at kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com

HIHI SUPPLY DRIVE

CLOTHING NEEDS

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

TOILETRIES

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

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

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

MISCELLANEOUS

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

Donations

צדקה

GENERAL

Elissa & Seymour Cantor
Arline Zuckerman
Eugene Laikin in memory of Abraham Laikin at yahrzeit.
Ed Fleiss in memory of Ethel Fleiss at yahrzeit.
Silvina Kramer in memory of Sara Bedrack at yahrzeit.
Philip Glaser in memory of Herman Glaser at yahrzeit.
Philip Glaser in memory of Billie Cohen at yahrzeit.
Morris Lagnado in memory of Abraham Lagnado at yahrzeit.
Paul Cohen in memory of Ruth Cohen at yahrzeit.
Sema & Sam Stein in memory of Nick Stein at yahrzeit.
Durese Nightingale in memory of Estelle Aksman at yahrzeit.
Adrienne Rosof in memory of Sylvia Graf Baron at yahrzeit.
Margie & Mel Fritz in honor of the birth of Andie Jill Zucker,
granddaughter of Shelley & Marc Weinberg.
Vered & Jack Cole & family in memory of Etti Levanon at yahrzeit.
Vered & Jack Cole & family in memory of Rose Cole at yahrzeit.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Gary Schuller, father of Alan Schuller.
Shelley & Marc Weinberg in memory of Rose Kramer at yahrzeit.
Dana & Richard Knox in honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of Allison & Mitchell Reiver.
Gerald Levy in memory of Audrey Levy at yahrzeit.
Judith Leopold in memory of Benjamin Mankin at yahrzeit.
Sam Stein in memory of Nick Stein at yahrzeit.
Sam Stein in memory of Bessie Stein at yahrzeit.
Shelley Weinberg in memory of Jack Freilich at yahrzeit.
Sheila Ewall in memory of Merton Ewall at yahrzeit.
Anita Gelberg in memory of Louis Stecker at yahrzeit.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Benedetto Palumbo at yahrzeit.
Ceceil Klein in memory of Herbert Sausmer at yahrzeit.
Richard Klein in memory of Samuel Klein at yahrzeit.
Lesley Stark (DeLia) in memory of Jack Magaril at yahrzeit.
Lesley Stark (DeLia) in memory of Sandra Magaril at yahrzeit.
Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Gary Schuller, father of Alan Schuller.
The Ingber family in memory of Gary Schuller, father of Alan Schuller.
Leonard Kramer in memory of Charles Kramer at yahrzeit.
Nancy Cooper in memory of Richard Berlow at yahrzeit.
Joan Cohen in memory of Ethel Wyatt at yahrzeit.
Mitzi & Paul Popkin in memory of Monroe Jurkowitz at yahrzeit.
Ethel Sachs in honor of the marriage of Danielle Vilinsky,
granddaughter of Shirley Vilinsky, to Ian Herrick.
Sarah & Jerry Saunders in honor of the birth of Mason Sam Goldstein, grandson of Arlene & Fred Steinberg.
Sarah & Jerry Saunders in honor of the birth of Lev Cameron Perler, grandson of Vicki & Arthur Perler.
Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Henry Lederman, father of Renda Rosenblatt.
Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Irvin Epstein at yahrzeit.
Sarah & Jerry Saunders wishing a speedy recovery to Maxine Fisher.
Carol & Marshall Adelstein in memory of Herman Adelstein at yahrzeit.

Robin & Richard Thompson in memory of Gary Schuller, father of Alan Schuller.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Henry Lederman, father of Renda Rosenblatt.
The Steinberg family in honor of the birth of Lev Cameron Perler, grandson of Vicki & Arthur Perler.
Andrea Morris in memory of Edith Forman at yahrzeit.
Sheryl Winkler in memory of Eleanor Teitel at yahrzeit.
Patricia Schoeffler in memory of Alexander Cochrane at yahrzeit.
Janet Zimmerman in memory of Lee Cole at yahrzeit.
Rene Levy in memory of Rose Zucker at yahrzeit.
Emily Weiler in memory of Charles Bitcover at yahrzeit.
Emily Weiler in memory of Rachel Bitcover at yahrzeit.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Susi Susskind in memory of Herbert Susskind at yahrzeit.
Carol & Howard Baker in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.
The Koppersmith family with thanks and appreciation to Rabbi Kurshan for the baby naming of Reese Koppersmith.
Rosalyn & Herbert Haber with thanks & appreciation to Rabbi Kurshan.
Myrna Tils in memory of Jonas Telmer at yahrzeit.
Howard Novick in memory of Rose Novick at yahrzeit.
Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Lev Cameron Perler, grandson of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Betty Goldgeier at yahrzeit.
Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Gary Schuller, father of Alan Schuller.
Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Henry Lederman, father of Renda Rosenblatt.

COLLEGIATE FUND

Arlene & Fred Steinberg & family in memory of Polly Kurzer at yahrzeit.
Myrna Breger in honor of the 1st birthday of Noa, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abby Uhrman.
Myrna Breger in honor of the birth of Sydney Grace Rosenberg, granddaughter of Phyllis & Andy Levy.
Myrna Breger in memory of Benett Breger at yahrzeit.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Mollie Pedowitz at yahrzeit.
Tom Rosen in memory of Samuel Rosen at yahrzeit.
Alice & Mitchell Greenstone in memory of Beth & Leonard Greenstone.
Selma Greenstein in memory of Hilda Bomser at yahrzeit.
Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of the engagement of Ariella, daughter of Rabbi Neil & Alisa Kurshan, to Leo Simonovich.

Donations

צדקה

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Andie Jill Zucker, granddaughter of Shelley & Marc Weinberg.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Andie Jill Zucker, great granddaughter of Mia Freilich.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Sam Wolfer, daughter of Andi & Kevin Wolfer.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Sam Wolfer, granddaughter of Gail & Eddie Joseph.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the engagement of Ariella, daughter of Rabbi Neil & Alisa Kurshan, to Leo Simonovich.

DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Alice & Mitchell Greenstone in memory of Beth & Leonard Greenstone.
Ellen & Matthew Kirschner & family in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.
Gail & Jim Lodge in memory of June Philips, mother of Nancy Bob.

LIBRARY FUND

Tyna & Gordon Strenger
Syd & Mike Schlesinger in memory of Alvin Schlesinger at yearzeit.
Marianne & Marvin Sokol in memory of Bernhard Stein at yearzeit.
Marianne & Marvin Sokol in memory of Toni Deutsch at yearzeit.
Betty & Bob Mesard in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.
Betty & Bob Mesard in honor of the 1st birthday of Noa, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abby Uhrman.
Betty & Bob Mesard in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Luftig.
Betty & Bob Mesard in honor of the 50th birthday of Iris Bich.
Betty & Bob Mesard in honor of the engagement of Ariella, daughter of Rabbi Neil & Alisa Kurshan, to Leo Simonovich.

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Susie & Jay Meisler in honor of the 45th wedding anniversary of Susan & David Lefkowitz.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Irene Nirenberg in memory of Norma Schwartz at yearzeit.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

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Ruth Wies
Marie & Gary Trager
Janet Kushnick in memory of Aaron Labb at yearzeit.

Felicia & Keith Messing & family in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew, son of Rosalind and Billy Wertheim.
Barbara & Lewis Meltzer in memory of Seymour Halperin, husband of Molly Halperin.
Mitzi & Paul Popkin in memory Al Rosen, husband of Charlotte Rosen.
Mitzi & Paul Popkin in memory Seymour Halpern, husband of Mollie Halpern.
Hannah & Bill Kampel in memory of Gertrude Hofbauer, mother of Pam Geller.
Gail Lodge in memory of Jack Grunberger at yearzeit.
Gail Lodge in memory of Lillian Grunberger at yearzeit.
Ruth Wies in memory of Albert Cohen at yearzeit.
Nancy & Brian Cooper in memory of Irving Philips, father of Nancy Bob.
Nancy & Brian Cooper in memory of June Philips, mother of Nancy Bob.
Jill & Arnie Sherman in memory of Louis Sherman at yearzeit.
Jill & Arnie Sherman in memory of Fae Cohen at yearzeit.
Maxine Liebowitz in memory of Abraham Edelstein at yearzeit.
Bea Pedowicz in honor of the 45th wedding anniversary of Susan & David Lefkowitz.



Nursery News
can't from page 8

complain about the process, other children often jump in to help them. In their way children learn compassion and that they can be helpers too.

When problems arise during play scenarios, children are asked by teachers what they can do to solve the issue at hand. If they can't figure it out, they must leave the area with their friend and return when a solution is found that is acceptable to both children. We start this process in the 3 year old program and by the time they reach the 4's most know what viable solutions work. We can't handicap our children by making their lives easy. When children ask us questions, ask them what they think the answer is before feeding it to them on a silver platter. It's best not to give children answers to remember but rather problems to solve. The more we make children think about problems or challenges, the better they will feel about themselves when they seek solutions and meet success when the solutions are implemented.

We want children to learn that "the best years of your life are the ones in which you decide your problems are your own. You do not blame them on your mother, the ecology, or the president. You realize that you control your own destiny." ~Albert Ellis. As Abigail Van Buren once said, "If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders." Learned helplessness can easily be avoided if we as educators and parents continually look at children with eyes that say, "You are capable, responsible human beings and we see you as an integral part of our family."

UJA-Federation of New York • Suffolk County Division

Huntington Community Concert

featuring **Sam Glaser**



Coming from Los Angeles, Sam Glaser will rock Huntington. He'll sing, dance, leap off stage, tickle the ivories, and even keep you in stitches with a good joke. Bring your whole family for this performance of contemporary upbeat Jewish music. The concert will also feature the synagogues' **Hebrew school students.**

Save the Date

Sunday, February 12, 2012 • 4:00 p.m.

Huntington Jewish Center • 510 Park Avenue, Huntington, New York

Join with local synagogue members for a hands-on mitzvah project and this joyful, up-on-your-feet, feel good experience. Learn how through UJA-Federation you're helping feed the hungry wherever they are, respond to families in crisis, and connect the next generation to its Jewish identity. We do the most good when we do it together.

Couvert: \$18 per person or \$52 per family (A family includes children and their parents.)
The couvert represents the value of the event and is not tax-deductible.

Participating Synagogues

Huntington Jewish Center • Kehillath Shalom

South Huntington Jewish Center • Temple Beth El of Huntington

Additional details to follow.

For more information, please contact Laurie Birzon at 1.516.677.1819 or birzonl@ujafedny.org.

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Important Meeting for all 2013 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parents Thursday, January 19 at 8 pm



The Rabbi, Cantor, Ritual Committee Chair and representatives from synagogue and Sisterhood leadership will all be present to explain policies and procedures regarding Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrations. All 2013 Bar/Bat Mitzvah parents should attend this meeting.

UJA-Federation of New York's Partners In Caring (PIC) Partners with HJC

UJA-Federation of New York's
Partners in Caring

UJA-Federation of New York's Partners in Caring (PIC) is a wonderful resource, extending social work services of their network agencies into almost 150 synagogues throughout Metropolitan New York. The goal of PIC is to reach the Jewish community in need through the doors of synagogues. PIC reinforces the caring potential of synagogues to be a source of support, compassion and connection for congregants who may be experiencing stress in their lives, and could benefit from professional social work support.

HJC is partnering with PIC so that congregants in need of support can receive help from the F.E.G.S social worker, Barbara Sheryll, LMSW. Barbara is a warm and empathic professional. She can help those who may be dealing with depression due to the death of a loved one, stress due to divorce, worries about finances, child rearing concerns, or any other issues that may be troubling you. Barbara is available to any congregants who would like to meet with her. Sessions are held at the Suffolk YJCC, and are free of charge. She can be reached at 631-462-9800 ext. 251.

If you have any questions please call:
Janet Zimmerman, PIC liaison, at (631)491-4084,
or e-mail ladyzim@optonline.net.

HJC Mitzvah Team Needs Your Help

THE LONE SOLDIER



The HJC Mitzvah Team class is making packages for the Lone Soldiers in Israel and we need your help. We are collecting the following items to include in the packages. Please help us as we would like to make 50 packages! There is a Donation Box outside the Religious School office and we will be collecting items through February 1.

All aerosol/liquid items can be travel size:

- Shaving razors and cream (men and women)
- After shave lotion/moisturizer
- Sun screen
- Lip balm
- Deodorant
- Athletic Cotton socks (black or white)
- Candy such as M&M's
- Tooth brushes and tooth paste
- iTunes cards
- Pre-paid international calling cards so they can call their parents overseas



HJC KOSHER COOKING THROWDOWN



SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2012

**This is a "Fun"draiser for HJC
and we need YOU to make it a successful night!**

Are you a great home cook?

- ◆ Put a team together (1-5 people) and be part of the competition for great prizes!
- ◆ Bring your best Shabbat meal!
- ◆ Entrance Fee- \$500 (sponsors welcome)

Are you a Baker?

- ◆ Enter our (pareve) dessert bake-off contest!
- ◆ Entrance Fee-\$36

Just want to taste? Be a Judge!

- ◆ Entrance Fee-\$180

Do you LOVE matzoh balls? Enter our eating competition!

- ◆ Entrance Fee- \$18

Just want to contribute?

- ◆ Sponsorship Opportunities Available! Just Ask!

Great Prizes and Raffle Baskets

- ◆ Please see our attached "Wish List" for donation suggestions!

Space is limited - all entries and fees must be received by January 6, 2012!!

The evening will feature a guest speaker and demonstration as well as
an open bar and nosh!!

Questions? Comments? Please contact:

Andrea Morris: 427-4798 or joligran@gmail.com

Shari Klaire: 271-0258 or cranky20@aol.com

I would like to...

Enter a cooking team

_____ \$500

Be a judge

_____ \$180

Enter the bake-off contest

_____ \$36

Enter the matzoh ball eating contest

_____ \$18

I can donate

_____ item / \$ _____

My check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed

My MC/VISA credit card # is _____ exp. date _____

Visit to Poland

by Navah Shoshanah Stein

Navah Shoshanah Stein, is a member of Huntington Jewish Center. In the cold month of March 2011 during a gap year in Israel with Young Judea Year Course she traveled to Poland for eight days. Below is one of many reflections that she wrote. Navah is now a Freshman at University of Vermont and about to travel to Israel once again on a Hasbarah Fellowship in January 2012.

Essay Question #5: You visited a number of sites during the Journey where great tragedies occurred to the Jewish people and assorted other peoples. Choose at least three sites you visited and compare and contrast the memorials, or lack of memorials at these sites. What do you think is the best way to memorialize the victims? Who should be responsible for the memorials?

All over Poland there are memorials to honor the victims of the Holocaust. Some of these memorials are massive and obvious, forcing passersby to recognize if not acknowledge what occurred at that spot. Other memorials are hidden, barely noticeable to the common passerby. And others still are simply a plaque or a gravestone waiting to be read. Some cities and towns have multiple memorials desperately grieving, begging future generations for forgiveness; while some have nothing at all just the spot itself, bare and haunted to those who know to stop and notice.

In Warsaw there are multiple memorials. The two that affected me the most were the Umschlagplatz and Mila 18. At the Umschlagplatz stands an arch right where the trains pulled in to take Warsaw Jews to Treblinka as well as other death camps. The arch is tall and engraved with tree branches, but the tops are cut off. There are no leaves, no life. These branches stand for the death this place enveloped and the lives it took. Behind the memorial grows a huge healthy tree, its branches reach high into the sky and look as if they are growing out of the memorial itself. These branches stand as a sign of life, a sign that Jewish life prospers and grows even after the Holocaust and that this place did not succeed in its goal to annihilate the Jews. Inside of the Memorial at the Umschlagplatz there are names engraved in multiple languages - Polish, Yiddish and Hebrew. These are the names of all the individuals and families that passed through this place, most of them never to return. Although this memorial wasn't extremely opulent, it was powerful. The names engraved in that wall will forever be engraved in my mind. This memorial is on a main road in Warsaw, people pass by it everyday, even use it as a shortcut to get wherever they are going. Do they notice it? Maybe every once in a while, but to the people it matters to most its existence is crucial.

Mila 18 is the simplest memorial I saw. It is a hill on top of the once existing bunker where Jews in the Warsaw ghetto uprising died. The height of the hill represents the amount of rubble that the bodies were buried beneath after the uprising. There is a stone explaining what took

place at the spot. We sat on the stairs that are built into the hill, and I felt an understanding with the people buried underneath, a feeling of unity and pride that they fought for their lives and the dignity of the Jewish people.

In contrast to the Umschlagplatz and Mila 18, Tykocin has no memorial except for the mass graves themselves. Out in the forest hidden within the trees beneath the blue sky remain three deep ditches with the bones of almost every Jew from Tykocin. People drive by oblivious to what they are passing. There are no big signs pointing to this spot, no monument. There is a plaque in front of the graves describing what this place is, but that is it. It is simple and straightforward. There are memorial candles and Israeli flags surrounding the graves, a sign of remembrance for the people that once populated half of the town. However, this place left me stricken. There was no need for a monument - the place itself explained it all.

The memorial at Treblinka was completely different than any other I've seen. It had stones representing each of the countries Jews were brought from. Stones covering an entire field as far as the eye can see. These stones encircled the tall monument representing the place, the spot where the crematorium once stood. The camp had been completely destroyed and the memorial is all that is left to signify the terror that happened at this spot. The monument was overwhelming because it reached into the sky, and with the setting sun a friend of mine was able to capture a Jewish star in its rays. This monument showed the presence of something greater.

Who am I to say what the best way is to memorialize all these people? I believe that each place deserves its own unique memorial, depending on what took place there. Memorials like the Umschlagplatz are beautiful; they encapsulate hope within all the sadness that the place represents. It brings beauty into the ugliness that the Holocaust brought out in so many people. Mila 18 served as a reminder of the strength and unity that these people felt when they pulled together the courage to rebel. But the mass graves don't need a memorial - they themselves serve as one enormous gravestone. And death camps such as Treblinka murdered so many thousands of people that maybe they do need the size to begin to explain to the world what that place represents. Jews should be in charge of the memorials. Not Poles, not Germans, but Jews. These people are our family, our history and we are the ones who must mourn and represent them, through art and poetry and truth.





This Month in American Jewish History

Thomas Jefferson

Letter to Isaac Harby, of Charleston, SC
January 6, 1826

Monticello, January 6th, 1826

SIR: I have to thank you for the copy you have been so kind as to send me of your "Discourse before the Reformed Society of Israelites." I am little acquainted with the liturgy of the Jews or their mode of worship; but the reformation proposed, and explained in the Discourse, appears entirely reasonable. Nothing is wiser, than that all our institutions should keep pace with the advance of time, and be improved with the improvements of the human mind. I have thought it a cruel addition to the wrongs which that injured sect have suffered, that their youth should be excluded from the instructions in science afforded to all others in our public seminaries, by imposing upon them a course of Theological Reading which their consciences do not permit them to pursue; and in the University lately established here, we have set the example of ceasing to violate the rights of conscience by any injunctions on the different sects respecting their religion.

I pray you to accept the assurances of
Respect and esteem.
Thomas Jefferson

Note: In the early years of our nation, rabbis and prominent members of synagogues frequently corresponded with presidents and former presidents for a variety of reasons. Washington's famous letter to the Tuoro Synagogue in Newport, RI, was written in response to a letter from the Schul's 'president,' who sought assurances that the Bill of Rights would protect Jews. Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, was a favorite correspondent of synagogue leaders. Isaac Harby sought Jefferson's support for the liberalizing, but contentious, changes proposed in his community - these were the early beginnings of Reform Judaism in America. Considering Jefferson's critical role in guaranteeing religious freedom for Jews and all Americans, a positive response would be a great coup for his position. Jefferson responded in the letter above, written just 6 months before his death on the country's 50th Independence Day.



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send to:

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

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

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Bulletin Editor: Kim Willen

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