



HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION



by Rabbi Kurshan

What I Learned About Sitting Shiva

A few days ago I got up from sitting Shiva for my father after sitting Shiva for my mother seven weeks earlier. Perhaps it is too soon to write about the experience of sitting Shiva, but on the other hand, I want to share what I learned while it is fresh in my mind. I am writing out of my own experience of what was helpful to me in the hope that it will help all of us to be supportive of our family members and friends when they mourn those they love.

First, I was surprised at how different it was to sit Shiva as a son than it is to help people through Shiva as a rabbi. When I became a mourner for my parents, I entered a different world of experience. It did not matter how many times I had guided others through Shiva. This was my first time sitting Shiva as a son.

Most important to me was the physical presence of others. Death leaves us feeling isolated and alone. The universe is emptier when someone we love is no longer at our side. I felt supported by the HJC

community, by my parents' friends and rabbi, and by my family. The love and warmth which all of you extended to me literally held me up. While I am sure it was not always easy to comfort the person who is usually the comforter, it meant a great deal to me that you reached out to me with your words and presence.

The presence of family was also a great source of comfort. It meant a tremendous amount to me that Alisa dropped everything and was at my side through both Shivas anticipating whatever needed to be done. With the death of my parents, I lost a crucial piece of my connection to the past, but my children and grandchildren reminded me of my family's future and the legacy my parents left. There is an opinion in our tradition that it is not appropriate for young children to be present at Shiva, but I found that the presence of my grandchildren and the other children who visited me and to whom I had to explain why I was growing a beard, allowed me to smile amidst my sadness.

What was most helpful to me was to be able to tell the stories about my parents. Shiva helped me to create the narrative of their lives. I told a different story about the lives of my parents a few days into Shiva than before Shiva as I came to know their lives not only through my own experience of them, but also through the experience

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Peaceful * Musical * Spirited

Family Friendly Shabbat

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES IN THE ROUND
followed by our

COMMUNITY SHABBAT FALL FEAST

It's Shabbat before Thanksgiving.
Come share the spirit of gratitude with our HJC family.



November 21, 2014

Come for the service at 6:00 pm / Stay for dinner at 7:00 pm

Meat meal * vegetarian options * supervised children's table

\$25/adult, \$10/child 5-12, child under 5 free,
\$ 70 max /family

RSVP to Debbie in the front office by Monday, November 17, 2014
or watch your email for a link to sign up on line
RSVP's after November 17 add \$2 per person to posted prices

of other family members and their friends. One person said to me, "I am sure you have had to tell the same story of your parents a hundred times this week..." That was true but it did not matter. I wanted to share their story so that people would know them a little. Each time I told the "same" story there would be a little bit of a different nuance because I had learned something new, or I was telling the story to a different person. The visitors who were most helpful *con't pg. 13*

Adult Education News



Adult Education Course at HJC: Dilemmas in Faith

*Tuesday evening, October 21; Thursday evenings
October 30, November 6 and 13; 8:00 pm in the
Family Life Center*

*Instructor: Rabbi Neil Kurshan with faculty from the
Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem*

What does it mean to believe? What do I believe in?
Where is God in the midst of suffering? If God once
acted through history (The Exodus), why doesn't God
intervene now (The Holocaust)? Does a belief in God
have any connection with ethical action i.e. why are
there pious Jews who act unethically and non-observant
Jews who act ethically?

Each session will begin with a video presentation
by a scholar from the Shalom Hartman Institute in
Jerusalem. Rabbi Kurshan will then lead a discussion
about the presentation incorporating traditional and
contemporary Jewish texts. All are welcome.

Chai Adult Education Institute at the Dix Hills Jewish Center

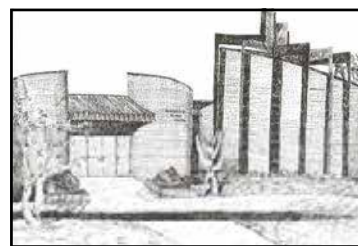
*Monday evenings, October 20 & 27, November 3, 10,
17 at 24;*

7:30-8:15 pm ~ Class Sessions with our clergy

8:15-8:30 pm ~ Minyan and Coffee Break

8:30-9:15 pm ~ Featured JTS Speaker

The Chai Adult Education Institute is a regional adult
education program sponsored by five western Suffolk
synagogues including the Huntington Jewish Center.
Each evening begins with classes taught by synagogue
rabbis followed by a lecture given by a professor from
the Jewish Theological Seminary. Lecturers for the fall
semester include David Hoffman, Amy Kalmanofsky,
Marjorie Lehman, Shuly Schwartz and Robbie Harris.
Consult the Chai Adult Education Brochure or contact
the HJC Main Office for additional details.



Neil Kurshan, Rabbi
423-5355

Israel Gordan, Hazzan
427-1089, ext. 22

Ilene Brown
Nursery School Director
425-0525

William Wertheim
President
427-1089

Maxine Fisher
Religious School Director
427-1157

Jane Hallberg
Administrator
427-1089 ext. 23

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HJC Committee Chairpersons

Bulletin.....	Kim Willen
Calendar.....	Gwen Goldstein
Cemetery.....	Louis Walsdorf
Chai Club.....	
Congregational Dinners.....	Lesley Stark, Michelle Stack, Joanne Cohen
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Family Life.....	Susan Hepworth, Cari Schuller, Andrea Morris, Lisa Hadar
Fundraising.....	Robert Weiser
Greeters.....	Maxine Fisher
High Holiday Honors.....	Joel Kupperman
Israel/Ramah Scholarships.....	Judy Fox
Israel Committee.....	Scott Ingber
Jewish Theological Seminary.....	Mitch Pashkin
Kol Nidre Appeal.....	Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz and Jonathan Boxer
Membership.....	Tracy Kaplowitz and Elaine Kleinmann
Men's Club.....	Ofer Rind
Nursery School Board.....	Susan Hepworth, Juliet Saturn, Jessica Frischman
Religious School Board.....	Sheri Bram & Felicia Messing
Ritual.....	Andrea Smoller
Selichot Lecture.....	Jennifer Ingber
Sisterhood.....	Evelyn Silverberg
Social Action.....	Janet Kushnick & Marilyn Klein
Special Arrangements.....	Vered Cole & David Walsdorf
Sunshine.....	Leslie Hantverk
Theater Development.....	Arthur Perler
Technology.....	Jeff Stark
Tree of Life.....	Tom Rosen
UJA.....	Scott Ingber
Youth.....	Shari Klaire
Youth Advisor.....	Rebecca Buzen



October 2014

5775 Tishri/Cheshvan



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Project Isaiah Food Drive through October 12th					3 <i>NO ECC</i> Minyan Breakfast Services 6:30pm KOL NIDRE	4 Services 9 am Mincha 3:45pm Yizkor 5pm Neilah 5:45pm YIZKOR YOM KIPPUR
5 <i>JNN</i> Men's Club Sukkah set-up Lulav p/u 11-1pm RIDOTTO 4pm Kad/USY	6 <i>YOGA</i> SH Board-8pm	7 Chaverim 6:15pm	8 Services 6:15pm EREV SUKKOT	9 <i>NO ECC</i> Main Office Closed Services 9:30am & Services 6:15pm SUKKOT	10 <i>NO ECC</i> Main Office Closed Services 9:30am Shabbat Services 6pm SUKKOT	11 CHOL HAMOED
12 <i>JNN</i> <i>No Religious</i> <i>School</i> Intermediate Day	13 <i>YOGA</i> <i>NO ECC</i> Columbus Day Intermediate Day	14 RS & Family Life Sukkah Program Congregational Dinner Intermediate Day	15 Services 6pm EREV SHEMINI ATZERET	16 <i>NO ECC</i> Services 9:30am Services 7:00pm SHEMINI ATZERET SIMCHAT TORAH	17 <i>NO ECC</i> Main Office Closed Services 9:30am Shabbat Services 6pm SIMCHAT TORAH	18 Shabbat Shindig 10:30am BERESHIT
19 <i>JNN</i> RS Board 9:15am Men's Club Hike Kad/USY	20 <i>YOGA</i> Chai Adult Ed. at Dix Hills Jewish Center 7:30pm	21 Adult Ed. with Rabbi Kurshan 8pm Hebrew Chug	22	23 <div>Rummage Sale Drop Off</div>	24 Shabbat Services 6pm Rosh Chodesh	25 BAR MITZVAH BENJAMIN HARMON NOACH Rosh Chodesh
26 <i>JNN</i> RS Mitzvah Team workshop 9:30am <div>Rummage</div>	27 <i>YOGA</i> Chai Adult Ed. at Dix Hills Jewish Center 7:30pm <div>Sale</div>	28 UJA Suffolk Inaugural Dinner 6:30pm Chaverim 6:15pm	29 SH Paid Up Membership Dinner - 6:30pm	30 Adult Ed. with Rabbi Kurshan 8pm	31 Shabbat Services 6pm	

~ 2014 HIGH HOLIDAYS SCHEDULE ~

Wednesday Evening, September 24th	Rosh Hashanah, First Night	Evening Services 6:45 PM
Thursday, September 25th	Rosh Hashanah, First Day	Services begin 8:15 AM Babysitting 10:15-12:15
Thursday, September 25th	Rosh Hashanah, Second Night	Services 6:45 PM
Friday, September 26th	Rosh Hashanah, Second Day Concluding Service/Shabbat (Lief Chapel)	Services begin 8:15 AM Babysitting 10:15-12:15 6:30 PM
Friday, Oct. 3rd	Kol Nidre	Services begin 6:30 PM Babysitting 6:30-9:00pm
Saturday, October 4th	Yom Kippur Babysitting 5:45pm to 7:00 pm	Services begin 9:00 AM Babysitting 11:00 – 12:45 Mincha 3:45 PM Yizkor service 5:00 PM Neilah 5:45 PM
Wednesday, October 8th	Sukkot, First Night	Services begin 6:15 PM
Thursday, October 9th	Sukkot, First Day	Services begin 9:30 AM Babysitting 10:30-12 noon
Thursday, October 9th	Sukkot, Second Night	Services begin 6:15 PM
Friday, October 10th	Sukkot, Second Day	Services begin 9:30 AM Babysitting 10:30 -12 noon
Wednesday, October 15th	Erev Shemini Atzeret	Services begin 6:00 PM
Thursday, October 16th	Shemini Atzeret	Services begin 9:30 AM Babysitting 10:30-12 noon
Thursday, October 16th	Simchat Torah	Services begin 7:00 PM
Friday, October 17th	Simchat Torah	Services begin 9:30 AM Babysitting 10:30-12 noon

HJC Community News



CONDOLENCES

Gale Greenstein on the death of her father, Marvin Quait.

Rabbi Neil Kurshan on the death of his father, Jerry Kurshan.

Sy Schpoont on the death of his wife, Beverly.

MAZAL TOV

Ellen Kahn announces the birth of her great grandson, Lavi Adar.

Sheila & Bruce Feinberg announce the birth of their grandson, Matan Raphael Ostin.

Amy Kulchinsky announces the engagement of her daughter, Dana, to Robert Schurz.

Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan announce the marriage of their son, Eytan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Susan & Steven Lax announce the marriage of their daughter, Yonit, to Jacob Heyman-Kantor.

NEW MEMBERS

Joni Brenner of Huntington

Stephen & Suzanne Newman of Huntington and their daughter, Madison, age 8.

Jewish Nutritional Network News



The Jewish Nutritional Network continues to prepare upwards of 300 meals for approximately 75 families living in emergency (motel type) housing. Every Sunday we deliver these meals to two locations in both Commack and Smithtown. Most of the residents of these shelters are children. A mother at the Commack motel thanked me and said, "if not for this meal, many would not have something to eat today".

The volunteers of the JNN meet every Sunday, some as early as 7:15 am, to start preparing the day's meal. Most days we cook pasta, beans, fresh vegetables seasoned to perfection and freshly baked biscuits. The rest of the volunteers arrive at 8:45 am to prepare sandwiches and all of the other components to complete this amazing meal.

The cost to feed the growing number of families is challenging our resources. It costs the JNN approximately \$300.00 each week for food and supplies. We always welcome new volunteers and/or financial donations.

Please consider making a donation to this amazing program that has found a piece of the world that needed to be fixed. We invite all to come to the dairy kitchen at 8:45am any Sunday to see what a small group of caring people have been doing quietly for the past 20 years.

Rob Fisher
rfish51@aol.com

Hannah Kampel
Hanabil844@optonline.net

President's Perspective

by William Wertheim



Well, Autumn is upon us. As I write this, the first chill edge to the air and the first scents of fall pervade the day. It's sad to bid farewell to the summer, but it's invigorating to return to the things that make up our lives: school, new projects at work, playoff baseball (okay, maybe not this year for our New York teams!), and of course, the New Year at HJC. Since the High Holidays are on the later side this year, we have already begun our

religious school, youth group, and nursery school programs; services have returned to the main sanctuary on Shabbat; Men's Club had its kickoff meeting; Sisterhood is hard at work with programming for its members and projects supporting the synagogue as a whole; JNN remains in business making meals for those in need.

Our volunteer and professional leadership has also been hard at work, over the summer, and at HJC. Just to outline a little of what's been going on:

- Though it will have already taken place by the time you read this, we're very excited about hosting Bret Stephens, the Pulitzer Prize-winning writer who is delivering our annual Eva Hoffman Kramer Selichot lecture this year; thank you to Jen Ingber and her committee for bringing him here.
- Our house committee led by Alan Kriegstein has also been hard at work, clearing up the trees damaged by a violent storm over the summer and removing trees along our property line that endanger adjacent houses.
- The ECC parents teamed up and raised funds to renovate the gym that our children use—take a look; it looks terrific!
- Ilene Brown, our ECC director, has fielded a terrific team of teachers, and we're very excited about the upcoming year at the ECC, which we know will be terrific for children (and their families).
- HJC has received a grant from UJA to provide outreach to Interfaith Families. This effort will be coordinated by Darryn and Janice Solotoff, and will take information and activities outside of HJC's walls into various venues around Huntington, with a hope of encouraging people to consider involvement in HJC, and reducing barriers they might feel to becoming engaged with us. We know that people might not realize how much interfaith couples can get involved in such areas as the schools, committees, social life, and of course in the Bar or Bat Mitzvah education process. We are hopeful this will bear fruit in attracting members into our community! Thanks to the Solotoffs, and to Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz and Elaine Kleinmann of our Membership committee for writing the grant.

- Andy Levy, Jen Kahn, and Becky Cohn are working to develop enhanced security procedures and equipment to better protect our building, our students, our grounds, and our community.

- Our website is getting a much-needed makeover! Thanks to Arthur Perler's efforts, we are able to take advantage of free support and templates from USCJ. I know it will both be attractive and useful. Look for it soon!

- The religious school under the guidance of Cantor Gordan and Maxine Fisher has some great new programming. With new online learning to reinforce classroom teaching, a new Mitzvah team curriculum, creative 2-year curriculum cycling throughout the years, it will be a very fun and educational year for our students.

Meanwhile, the Board is working to manage the budget deficit as well. As you will recall from the Congregational Meeting, we are facing a serious budget deficit this year—it is predicted (at the beginning of the year) to be almost \$50,000. This is a serious number. The Board is considering a number of actions—and has implemented already—to reduce expenses and to enhance revenue without affecting synagogue programming. Our goal is to reduce—or better yet eliminate—that deficit. In that vein, I am pleased to say that Bob Wieser has agreed to lead the Fundraising effort for HJC. His committee is working to both coordinate activities, and to develop a long-term, coherent fundraising plan throughout the year. Some ideas that you will see include centerpiece sales and pie sales for Thanksgiving, incorporating raffles into existing events, creating “HJC-branded” gifts for Hanukkah, and many more ideas. Of course, mark your calendars for the Progressive Dinner, organized by Carol Baker and Susi Susskind (and if you can host, please contact them) on December 6th! Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz and Dr. Jonathan Boxer, our Kol Nidre appeal chairs, are putting a wonderful effort to ensure that this year's drive will be a particularly good one. I think it's a particularly important year for EVERYONE to give something—I would very much like to see 100% participation from all our members. If you have ideas about fundraising, or would like to help out, please contact Bob at bobsteele1@gmail.com.

Talking about fundraising may not be as exciting a topic as some of the terrific programming we have, but please remember that without fundraising, we wouldn't be able to have all the events and programs we do have. As I've said before, HJC is everyone's synagogue, everyone's community. We all benefit when we all help just a little bit.

As the Yamim Noraim approach, let me wish all of you, from me, Rosalind, and my children, a Shana Tovah U'metukah—A happy and sweet New Year.

B'shalom,

Billy Wertheim



New Phones – New Year

by Hazzan Israel Gordan



I'm writing this article the day after Apple introduced its new iPhone. After months of anticipation and a wealth of rumors and speculation circulating on the Internet, Apple unveiled not one but two new phones, in addition to a new mobile payment system as well as an upcoming "smart watch." For Apple devotees and techies alike, this annual event is an occasion for great excitement

of what the future will hold in terms of the next generation of consumer electronics.

But is a new cell phone really that exciting? Will it actually change our lives? Sure, it will have some great new functionality and there is always the fun of the shiny metal and glass, but inevitably, it is just another product; another way for us to be consumers and to buy more stuff. Hopefully no one believes that true happiness of fulfillment could come from a phone, watch, or any piece of equipment, (computer or otherwise) that you could buy.

Another event that comes each fall, however, is the start of the Jewish New Year. And it is not just a product that will become outdated as soon as you buy it, but a festive period that lasts from Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah. Imagine if we approached these events with the same sort of excitement as we do the annual introduction of a new iPhone (or phones)?

I see this not as a trite statement, but a true spiritual challenge. It is only human nature to covet products and desire to buy new, fancy things. In the same way that religion always wages the counter-cultural battle, Judaism is urging us to look beyond and to go deeper.

The Jewish holidays are not about products or money and in fact we are prohibited from using money or electronic devices on the holidays. Instead we are asked to turn inwards: to reflect on the year that has passed, to ask forgiveness from those we may have wronged or hurt, to look forward to the year ahead, and to count our blessings of abundance, and to thank and praise God. The holidays also provide us with ample opportunities to come together as families and as a community to celebrate together and to mark the passage of time.

After the important work of repenting for our sins from the previous year and praying for a good new year, Sukkot also poses some intense and interesting existential questions. We are required to dwell in a sukkah, a temporary structure that is built for the eight days of the festival. But what does temporary mean? Are there any permanent structures? What is our relationship to time and our own mortality and how do we understand God's role in our lives?

As we celebrate these holidays together (perhaps with new phones in our pockets), my prayer for our community is that we have the courage to enjoy not only the products in our lives, but also the time we can take to wrestle with bigger questions of spirituality and self. Shanah Tovah!

Religious School Update

by Maxine Fisher

Religious School Administrator

Even though I always say each of the seasons are my favorite, I really do like autumn. I like the briskness of the air, the color of the trees, the cooler temperatures and how it prepares us for winter. It always makes me think of sitting in the sukkah on Sukkot and dancing outside with the Torahs on Simchat Torah.

We are very fortunate in the Religious School that this year the holidays are a little later, allowing us time to discuss the holidays before they take place.

If you are ordering a lulav and etrog, pick up day is Sunday, October 5 from 11:00-1:00. On Tuesday, October 7 our Religious School children will help decorate the sukkah with decorations they will make in class.

We will have Junior Congregation on Saturday, October 11 at 10:30 AM and a Shabbat Shindig with Cantor Gordan on Saturday, October 18 at 10:30 AM. Parents are welcome to join us for both.

Don't forget that this year's Simchat Torah celebration will take place at Temple Beth El on Thursday, October 16 at 7:00 PM. This is the second year we have partnered with them for Simchat Torah (HJC hosted last year), and it is so special for the Jewish community of Huntington to come together and rejoice in the Torah!

Enjoy the fall!



...Save the Date...

Be there

SISTERHOOD Paid-Up Membership Dinner

New and Old Members

Good Friends, Good Food, Good Drinks, Good Times

October 29th, 2014: 6:30pm Cocktails, 7:30pm Dinner



Library Update

A New Year Brings New Books to the Ben Tasman Library

We have added to our collection with some wonderful books for children and adults. Here is just a partial listing

Modeh Ani: A Good Morning Book

Is It Night or Day?

My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel

Marjorie Morningstar – the subject of Sisterhood Fall Book Talk

Discover the joys of our expanding collection* - we will be sharing our thoughts on some of the books with postings in the library.

Why not celebrate, commemorate with your name on a bookplate in the library?

We look forward to seeing you soon. Would you like to be part of our library team? We would love to have you!

~ Syd Schlesinger, Chair – HJC Library Committee

*We thank all those who have donated books from their own personal collections, but we are now only able to accept new fiction and children's books. Todah Rabah.

Book Recommendation: Davita's Harp

Available in HJC's Library, **DAVITA's HARP** is a very good read. Chaim Potok delivers once again. With his unique narrative voice he explores the complexity of human hearts and minds. The eponymous Davita is a child evolving into a brilliant and intuitive young adult. The influences of widely diverse people, children and adults, affect her deeply. She confronts fundamental issues of religion, justice, politics, and gender with the innocence and openness of a child. As always, Potok's ending leaves his readers to ponder important issues. He appears to tell us, "Never stop pondering the imponderables. Keep an open mind, Above all, be human and part of the human race."



Sisterhood News
by Evelyn Silverberg

Membership

Be There

Sisterhood Paid up Membership Dinner

New and Old Members

Good Friends, Good Food, Good Drinks, Good Times

October 29, 2014: 6:30 PM Cocktails, 7:30 PM Dinner

Dues can be paid at the Membership Dinner.

Fall Rummage Sale

Clean out your closets and put aside gently used clothing and household items for the Fall Rummage Sale on Sunday and Monday, October 26th and 27th. Drop Off Dates are Thursday, October 23rd and Friday October 24th. The Fall Rummage Sale will be held in the Social Hall. Any items not purchased are donated to local organizations to assist the Huntington Community.

Upcoming Events

Fall Book Discussion – Monday, November 3rd at 11:30 AM.

Marjorie Morningstar by Herman Wouk is the selection. Join us for a light lunch and lively discussion.

Your support from the annual Fund Raisers, Rummage, Hamantaschen Sales and Purim Baskets is used to support Huntington Jewish Center and Sisterhood Programming, the Early Childhood Center and Religious School, purchasing new books for Shabbat and Holiday Services, Bima Flowers for the Pilgrimage Holidays, High Holiday Baby-Sitting, sponsoring the Purim Ball, Theater and the PJ Library program. Sisterhood is not just in the kitchen preparing Kiddushes but reading books to the children in the Early Childhood Center, selling giftware in the Judaica Shop, helping in the Main Office, leading programs for all ages and co- sponsoring events such as the Chanukah Happening and Shabbacue.

Yoga – Monday mornings

Gift Shop – Please remember the Sisterhood Gift Shop for your holiday and gift needs.

Early Childhood News

by Ilene Brown



"The past is history, the future is a mystery and the present is a gift." One of the most valuable lessons I have learned thus far in my life is that you can't change the past. We often hold grudges, hang on to anger and ruminate on past mistakes. The only result is that we are wasting the most precious gift of the present. At one time in my life I lived like this; always wishing I could change something that had occurred in my past or focusing on something negative. This only made me frustrated and wasted time. With

time and experience I have thankfully learned from past mistakes, but most importantly to move on from them and live in the moment. On the other hand, if we spend all of our time thinking about and planning our future, we are not enjoying the present either.

Returning to Huntington Jewish Center and spending time with the children has brought me the gift of the present. Each and every moment I spend with them reminds me of how precious time truly is and how we need to take advantage of every moment as the children do. It is amazing to me to see the excitement and awe in their eyes when they look at a book, build and create with blocks, walk outside or discover something as simple as a leaf. While we work so hard to teach them and create their future, we forget about their present as well as our own. We need to take a page from their book, and learn to simply be and remember the simple things, like the sun shining and the green grass. When I was teaching I would take my class to the playground almost every day. We would walk outside and I would have the children take 3 deep breaths of the fresh air and say, "Thank you G-d for this beautiful day."

I wish you and your families a very happy, healthy and peaceful new year. Shana Tovah!



Bar Mitzvahs October



Ben Harmon
Son of Nina and
Jeffrey Harmon

Ben is an eighth grade Honor student at H.B. Thompson Middle School in Syosset, NY. He plays on HBT's soccer, basketball and baseball teams. In addition to

being a sports enthusiast and athlete, he is also a sushi and food connoisseur, and plays the upright bass. He spends his downtime studying sneakers and playing multi-sports with his friends. Ben is kind, compassionate, and cares deeply for all living things and our planet.

We are so proud of Ben and all that he has accomplished, and from the moment he completed his first Yigdal, we knew he had developed an appreciation for his heritage and role as a Jewish young man. As members of HJC for more than 40 years (including Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, weddings and life events), we look forward to Ben adding to this tradition.

Help needed with Bulletin

Volunteers needed to help prepare the bulletin for mailing.

About 3 - 4 hours per month.

Contact Kim Willen if you have time to help out.

kwillen@mac.com

Spotlight on...

The Huntington Jewish Center is embarking on a new project that we hope you will embrace. The Storytelling Project is designed to give everyone in our congregation an opportunity to share his or her personal story. The purpose of this program is to enhance connectedness and to involve members in new and different ways. For those of you who are familiar with NPR's Story Corps, this project has a similar angle. It will enable people to hear what others have done in their lives, to share important elements and anecdotes, to bridge generations and to build community. We want to hear your story and where HJC fits into it. Each interview will be written in a narrative format and be printed in the HJC newsletter. We are also experimenting with video taping some of the interviews and hope to create a documentary montage of peoples' stories. Everyone is invited to participate; no one is obligated. There is a small group of committed people who have started to interview some of our most veteran members. This is a long-term project that will likely take years to complete – and will become an on-going part of the HJC culture. We not only hope that you will agree to be interviewed, but we also welcome additional interviewers, writers, editors, videographers and video editors. All ages are welcome to participate.

For more information or to get involved, please contact: Nancy Cooper: 516-356-7109 or email: nancyberlow@gmail.com



Howard and Carol Baker

While interviewing Howard and Carol Baker I was struck by how much they are the poster couple for important lessons in contributing to Jewish continuity. Having prefaced my request to interview them

with an explanation that I wanted to hear the stories of their personal journeys with Jewish and synagogue life, I expected to hear something introspective...perhaps, reflections on the place of Jewish ethos in their lives. Whatever topic we explored, however, evolved into their enthusiastic discussion of the bigger picture of the life of a community; I could not get them to talk about themselves. About 2 hours into the interview it hit me that participation in the life of a synagogue community WAS their personal story and that their 46 years of contributions to the HJC community was only one chapter in a long and inspiring story.

Chapter 1: Both Howard and Carol related vivid memories of their parents' living rooms as bustling centers of synagogue life. For Howard, it was committee meetings for the Conservative synagogue on Staten Island in which he grew up; the congregation which owed its existence partly to his grandparents, who were founding members, and his parents who were active and responsible members. Similarly, Carol spoke of her Orthodox synagogue in Atlantic Beach and the days and evenings when she saw her parents' living room taken over by Haddasah and B'nai Brith pow-wows. Simply put, synagogue life is part of the Bakers' DNA.

Chapter 2: It is little wonder that in 1968, when the then 22 and 25 year old newlyweds moved to Commack so Howard could start his job at the Merrill Lynch office in Melville, among the first things they did was go shul shopping. Although HJC was not the closest synagogue to their home, they found its community of roughly 500 families to be a warm and welcoming place to put down roots. Howard recalled HJC families immediately inviting them into their homes to meet other congregants so that when the High Holidays arrived they would not feel like the "young strangers from Commack." Carol was struck by learning that Rabbi Tennenbaum was recovering from a broken arm sustained in a

skiing accident ... something that surely would never have happened to the Orthodox rabbi of her youth. Howard was taken by the fact that there was no assigned sanctuary seating and that even new members could have Aliyot. They enthusiastically joined without ever even checking out a sample service.

The young couple was pleased with their decision ... that is until the following year when their ideal community was starting to unravel as the membership voted out Rabbi Tennenbaum, the Rabbinical Assembly was refusing to make any referrals for new rabbis despite the upcoming holidays until the matter of Rabbi Tennenbaum's severance package was resolved. When the issue was finally settled, Rabbi Tennenbaum formed Congregation Kehilath Shalom in Cold Spring Harbor and 80 HJC members followed. HJC suffered from the sudden drastic decline in membership dues and Kol Nidre donations. Howard and Carol started to have doubts but they stuck it out and took a wait and see approach. Things then settled down. Rabbi Rothenberg arrived and his "Conservadox" leanings felt familiar to Carol. Moreover, their daughter Bonnie was born and now they were no longer the childless newlywed couple but a young family with a child who would grow up in this welcoming community.

Chapter 3: Following in the footsteps of their own parents and grandparents, Carol lent her many creative talents to several committees and projects. Each time she spoke about her work on those projects she reminded me "in those days we didn't use e-mail blasts ... people actually picked up the phone and called congregants to tell them about events - we had phone chains". Among the many events she accepted all or partial responsibility for were: annual musical plays by Sisterhood, Friday night onegs with interesting speakers; plays written with Lana Stein such as the Chanukah play "The Littlest Candle" for which HJC received an award from Women's League, and she even co-wrote the hilarious and still memorable "toast and roast" of Ethel Sachs.

Meanwhile, in 1972 Howard did what came naturally to him and took his seat on the Board. As chair of the catering committee one of his first tasks was to appear at an IRS auction to bid on and buy back all of the kitchen equipment and upholstered chairs provided by the previous ill-fated caterer. By 1979 he was its President. The years of his presidency were bright ones for HJC. Howard describes himself as fortunate during his 2 terms as President because there was "a fresh in-flow of upfront money" paid to HJC by its new caterer which eliminated the Center's outstanding bank debt. He was able to concentrate on building up the congregation's spirit and that he did. He referred me to the HJC Centennial book (a project that he chaired) to read about those years,

Donations

צדקה

GENERAL FUND

Arline Zuckerman
Ruth Wies in memory of Richard Wies at yahrzeit.
Susan Wichard in memory of Otto Laube at yahrzeit.
Sheryl Winkler in memory of Joseph Teitel at yahrzeit.
Ronald Goldstein in memory of Arthur Goldstein at yahrzeit.
Arlene Steinberg in memory of Abe Kurzer at yahrzeit.
Arlene Steinberg in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
The Wax family in memory of Phyllis Kirschner at yahrzeit.
Arlene Rubenstein in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Arlene Rubenstein in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.
Arlene Rubenstein in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Rosalind Shaffer in memory of Sylvia Sandlofer at yahrzeit.
Harriet Harris in memory of Rita Alpert at yahrzeit.
Ethel Schwartz Bock in memory of Samuel Schwartz at yahrzeit.
Loron Simon in memory of Ronald Simon at yahrzeit.
Vered & Jack Cole in memory of Michael Cole at yahrzeit.
Gwynne Jean & Kenneth Gutwein in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.
Gwynne Jean & Kenneth Gutwein in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Gwynne Jean & Kenneth Gutwein in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Gwynne Jean & Kenneth Gutwein in memory of Max Schoeffler, father of Dan Schoeffler.
Ethan Auslander in memory of Rhoda Auslander at yahrzeit.
Carol & Howard Baker in memory of Ruth Baker at yahrzeit.
Mitchell Golub in memory of Charles Golub at yahrzeit.
Ethel Schwartz Bock in memory of Hannah Sandler at yahrzeit.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Beatrice Schneck at yahrzeit.
David Walsdorf in memory of Lillian Walsdorf at yahrzeit.
Todd Houslanger in memory of William Houslanger at yahrzeit.
Liz Holbreich in memory of Charlotte Zirkel at yahrzeit.
Dale & Phil Mintz in memory of Carl Kaplowitz at yahrzeit.
Dale & Phil Mintz in memory of Gertrude Kaplowitz at yahrzeit.
Dale & Phil Mintz in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Dale & Phil Mintz in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.
Marilyn Koven in memory of Stanley Koven at yahrzeit.
Tova & Stuart Markowitz in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Gary Schoer in memory of Bernice Schoer at yahrzeit.
Adrienne & Bernie Rosof in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Charlotte Rosen in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.
Charlotte Rosen in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Allen Sinowitz in memory of Harry Sinowitz at yahrzeit.
Loron Simon in memory of Jane Simon at yahrzeit.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Roberta Marsh in memory of Solomon Jacobs at yahrzeit.
Richard Wertheim in memory of Irene Wertheim at yahrzeit.
Nancy & Marc Hazan in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Carol & Martin Cohen in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Barbara & Bert Taffet in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Janet & Mark Zimmerman in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Marilyn Koven in memory of Betty Mesard, wife of Bob Mesard.
Marilyn Koven in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Anita Gelberg in memory of Melvin Gelberg at yahrzeit.
Susan & Nathan Board in memory of Benjamin Yahre at yahrzeit.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in memory of Shirley Held, mother of Vicki Perler.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in honor of the engagement of Dana, daughter of Amy Kulchinsky, to Robert Schurz.
Richard Klee in memory of Carole Klee at yahrzeit.
Gail & Jerry Ellstein in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.
Gail & Jerry Ellstein in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Myrna Tils in memory of Alvin Tils at yahrzeit.
Beatrice Pedowicz in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
The Behr family in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Donald Maiman in memory of Larry Maiman, Phillip & Minnie Rosen, Paul Stillman, and Jean & Charles Fritz at yahrzeit.
Ofer Rind in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.
Ofer Rind in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.
Ofer Rind in memory of Max Schoeffler, father of Dan Schoeffler.

Donations

צדקה

Helga & Al Kramer in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Roz & Marty Spielman in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Beryl & Sy Okwit in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Myrna Tils in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Joan Blank & family in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

Shelley & Marc Weinberg in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

The Hantverk family in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Randi & Alan Schuller in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Joyce Kramer in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Shanah, Howard, Bianca & Elijah Gordon in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Meri & Ed Schindler in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Linda & Howard Novick in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Jill & Morris Lagnado in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Laurie & Peter Birzon in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Laurie & Peter Birzon in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Helga & Albert Kramer in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Miriam Eckstein-Koas in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Pamela & Bruce Fleiss in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Pamela & Bruce Fleiss in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Frank Wolff & family in honor of Charlotte Rosen.

Susi Susskind in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Marianne Sokol in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Sy & Beryl Okwit in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

Sandy & Joe Rabinowitz in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Renee & Bill Saperstein in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Ofer Rind in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Laurie & Peter Birzon in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Meri & Ed Schindler in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Terri.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Bernice Wirchin at yahrzeit.

Marlene & Leonard Hummel in memory of Gene Hummel at yahrzeit.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of the birth of Matan Raphael Ostin, grandson of Sheila & Bruce Feinberg.

Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Susi Susskind in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

William & Rosalind Wertheim in honor of Nick Sakellarios doing his first Haftarah reading.

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Molly Rencoff at yahrzeit.

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Miriam Eckstein-Koas in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judy & Lester Fox wishing a speedy recovery to Joan Blog.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Abe Teischer, grandson of Raymon & Adela Sasson.

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of the father of Glen Dragon.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Henry, grandson

Donations

צדקה

of Ronnie & Harriet Shapss.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Jerri & Fred Shapss.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Terri, daughter of Meri & Ed Schindler.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

William & Rosalind Wertheim in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

William & Rosalind Wertheim in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Yolanda Barfus in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Joan & Norman Mattisinko in memory of Max Mattisinko at yahrzeit.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Rina & Eric Jaffe in memory of Max Schoeffler, father of Dan Schoeffler.

Rina & Eric Jaffe in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Rina & Eric Jaffe in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Rina & Eric Jaffe in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Frank Wolff in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Ellie Siperowitz wishing L'Shana Tova to Hannah Kampel and Joan & Norman Mattisinko.

Arlene Steinberg in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of

Muriel & Jeff Weitzman.

Marlene & Lenny Hummel in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Sylvia Brass in memory of Albert Allen at yahrzeit.

Hannah Kampel in honor of the birth of Maya Reut Gordan-Uhrman, daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman.

Hannah Kampel in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Charlene & Gordie Kerner in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Charlene & Gordie Kerner in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Barbara & Lew Meltzer in memory of Phyllis Kurshan, mother of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Hannah Kampel in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Hannah Kampel in honor of the marriage of Abby, daughter of Sarah & Jerry Saunders, to Jeffrey Fisher.

Hannah Kampel in honor of the marriage of Phillip, son of Marlene & Leonard Hummel, to Lillian Shields.

The Behr family in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Janet & Martin Kushnick in honor of the marriage of Eytan, son of Rabbi Neil and Alisa Rubin Kurshan, to Anna Squires Levine.

Janet & Martin Kushnick in memory of Phyllis & Jerry Kurshan, mother & father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

William & Rosalind Wertheim in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

Jill & Arnie Sherman in memory of Jerry Kurshan, father of Rabbi Neil Kurshan.

Jill & Arnie Sherman in memory of Marvin Quait, father of Gale Greenstein.

YOUTH FUND

Laurie & Peter Birzon in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Terri, daughter of Meri & Ed Schindler.

Rabbi con't from page 1 to me were those who simply listened, or who asked a thought provoking question about my parents without feeling they had to speak of their own experience. I am by nature more a listener than a talker, but Shiva was seven days when I felt the need to talk rather than listen. It also meant a lot when someone who knew or had met my parents was able to share a story about them that I did not know.

Even when it was not possible for someone to sit with me in person, the outpouring of cards and notes (as well as gifts of meals, desserts etc.) made me feel that I was enveloped by a community who cared. Every card meant something to me, but when someone was able to write a personal note, I lingered over

the words of comfort that had been written.

At the end of Shiva, I was not the same person that I was seven days earlier, but I was ready to go back to my routine because I had been given the gift of being able to mourn for my parents. There is a little known tradition that at the end of Shiva the one getting up from Shiva is literally pulled out of the Shiva chair by a friend or family member as an expression of the reluctance to take the next step in letting go of the person who has died. At the moment I was pulled from the chair by a friend, I felt I was being pulled away from my parents, but also pulled back into a family and community amidst whom I would not be alone.

HIHI SUPPLY DRIVE

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 seven nights this winter. Many supplies and volunteers are needed to ensure the success of this program. Please bring in any of the items below to assist those in need. Look for the HIHI bins.

CLOTHING NEEDS

- Knit hats
- New Warm Socks
- New Underwear M/L
- Winter Gloves
- Jeans
- Sweatshirts
- T-shirts
- Flannel pants/shirts

MISCELLANEOUS

- Spanish DVDs
- Monetary donations welcome
- CD player

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

All food must be marked Kosher, Dairy

- Individual hot chocolate packets
- Lemonade/Fruit punch drink mixes (Jumbo)
- Hot sauce
- Large bags of Tortilla chips
- Salsa
- Jumbo Paper lunch bags
- Juice boxes
- Granola Bars
- Small bottled waters
- Snack size bags of chips
- Styrofoam soup bowls
- Large bags of rice
- Cans of beans
- Paper towels

This year we will be hosting on the following dates:

December 3, 17, 25, January 7, 21 and March 11, 25

Our sign-up and volunteer meeting will be November 5 at 7 pm

For more information, please contact:

Ellen Steinberg at ellen.steinberg728@gmail.com

Karen Flanzenbaum at kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com

HJC SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH A PROJECT REPLENISH PROJECT ISAIAH



Please join our HJC synagogue family, Nursery school & Religious school in helping those in need in our community on Long Island.

From September 19th to October 12th, there will be receptacles at the synagogue to collect nourishing, non-perishable, healthy food in unopened containers.
Please do not bring Passover foods.

We will be bringing our collection to *FEGS* so they may help refill the empty food pantry shelves. We know we can count on your support.

Questions? Marilyn Klein (631) 271-8461 or Janet Kushnick (631) 271-8803

where I learned that during his years at the helm: all Chai congregant families were honored at gala dinner - dance; a Young Couples club was started; the Bulletin was reinvigorated; Rabbi Rothenberg led a trip to Israel; library programs were expanded; two successful fundraising journals accompanied two well attended dinner dances; a new Director of Education was hired; youth programs flourished; Sisterhood produced "Funny Girl"; innovative pre-Selicot dine-arounds were organized; and successful membership drives were held. There were dance lessons, cooking lessons, Goodtime Saturday night dances. For the first time in memory, income exceeded expenses in both terms of Howard's presidency. Moreover, United Synagogue recognized the wide array of HJC programs and activities during this period and awarded HJC Soloman Schecter awards in 10 categories at its 1979 and 1981 conventionsand, as Carol reminded me: "in those days we didn't use e-mail blasts ... people actually picked up the phone and called congregants to tell them about events - we had phone chains".

Community building activities were not the extent of Howard and Carol's embrace of HJC. Carol took advantage of Rabbi Kurshan's Adult Education Jewish learning opportunities; she became active with the weekly emailed Torah Teasers (a shocking admission from the woman who reminded me on the quarter hour that "in those days we didn't use e-mail blasts"). Howard shared that after he retired he discovered the "hidden gem" of HJC ... morning minyan.

Chapter 4: This story began with the observation that synagogue life was handed down to Howard and Carol in their parents' living rooms and that their story teaches us valuable lessons in Jewish continuity. This story ends with the "hidden gem" I found on page 110 of the HJC Centennial Book where Howard and Carol's daughter Bonnie offers the following reflections of which I share here only the first and last paragraphs: Like many couples who settle in a new place, when my husband and I moved to Westchester County, we posed the same questions as every stranger in a strange land. How will we put down roots? How will we find friends who share our values? How can we make a meaningful impact on our new community? My family's experience at the HJC suggested the answer: join a synagogue and get involved.

...Much of what matters to me as a Jew is grounded in the experiences my family had at the HJC- experiences that resonate with the enduring values of community, ritual, observance, leadership, and friendship. For my family, the HJC was our religious and spiritual home, a social network, part of the fabric of our daily lives. Viewing it as such, my parents willingly gave their time and energy to make their shul a better place. Following their example, I am still trying to do the same. The case for our responsibility for Jewish continuityclosed.

Interview compiled by Lesley Stark and Howard and Carol Baker.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Huntington Jewish Center invites you to a
Progressive Dinner*



**SATURDAY EVENING,
DECEMBER 6 AT 7:30 PM**

*A PROGRESSIVE DINNER is an occasion where you will be invited to someone's home for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a kosher dinner. After dinner, there will be sumptuous desserts and surprises at the home of Kim & Joe Willen.

Cost: \$60 per couple or \$30 per single

We hope you will participate in this excellent & fun-filled fundraiser.
You won't be sorry!

If you wish to host a dinner, please contact:
Susi Susskind 631.424.5360 or Carol Baker at 631.499.4934

HJC Babysitters:

Grace Willen

home: 631-754-5865
cell: 631-871-1477

**Babysitters - email your
current information to put
here!**

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

include your current home and cell numbers

HJC Bulletin October 2014

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510 Park Avenue
Huntington, NY 11743

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

huntingtonjewishcenter.com
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Editor: Kim Willen kwillen@mac.com

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UJA-Federation of New York

2015 SUFFOLK COUNTY INAUGURAL DINNER

Presenting the

Business Leader Award to

RICHARD SIRLIN

Community Service Award to

DEBORAH & MITCHELL BIEDERMAN

Humanitarian Award to

DRS. MARY URICCHIO & MICHAEL BUCHHOLTZ

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014 • 6:30 P.M.

The Hamlet Golf & Country Club
1 Clubhouse Drive, Commack, New York

Cabinet Chair: **RICK MORSE**

Inaugural Chair: **MATTHEW KREINCES**

Couvert: \$100* per person

Formal Invitation to Follow • Dietary Laws Observed

For more information, please contact Laurie Birzon at
516.677.1819 or at birzonl@ujafedny.org.


*The couvert represents the value of the event and is not tax-deductible.

This event is intended for donors of \$500 or more to the 2015 Annual Campaign. We welcome your pledge now and request payment before Thursday, December 31, 2015. With your gift, you'll have the special opportunity to attend other select UJA-Federation events during the 2015 campaign year.

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