

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION



by Rabbi Kurshan

Do You Know Your Number?

A recent popular ad shows a man dragging a large number behind him while the ad asks the question, "What is Your Number?" The number refers to the amount you need to retire comfortably and securely. Fortunately with the arrival of the Baby Boom generation at retirement age, there are an array of resources available to people who want to know their number. Yet while there are a multitude of financial planners to ensure that the baby boom generation is financially prepared for this next stage of life, there are very few resources to guide this generation spiritually to the next stage. It is quite easy to find help to be financially prepared, but almost impossible to find help to become spiritually prepared.

Thus the deeper questions often go

unanswered: When I am no longer needed by my employer or my colleagues at work, what will I be still able to contribute? When my children are grown up and I am no longer needed at home, what will be my role in life as a parent or family member? What will provide purpose or meaning in life when I am past fifty? How do I cope with aging parents with growing needs? How do I cope with grown children who have difficulty coping? How do I deal with aging parents and adult children at the same time if I am pulled in different directions? How do I struggle with loss as family members and friends die? What is truly important to me to leave as a legacy to my children and grandchildren beyond the financial disposition of my assets? Will I ever be able to forgive and make my peace with the people who have hurt and betrayed me in life?

Until recently there were very few sources of support to work explore some of these issues which are part of the lives of all of us. There were certainly no programs in the Jewish community to wrestle with these issues from a Jewish perspective. We are fortunate at the Huntington Jewish Center to be first adapters of the Wise Aging Program designed to address many of the questions above within a Jewish context. The materials for this program will be available in the Spring and Elaine Kleinmann and I were fortunate to be selected as facilitators for the program. We joined with a small group of clergy, educators, and Jewish professionals in Manhattan in the fall to learn how to work



NEWBORNS IN NEED

The Social Action Committee of HJC is once again helping the Long Island Chapter of **Newborns in Need...** a national nonprofit organization which provides essentials to babies whose mothers would otherwise have nothing. Many young moms leave the hospital with a baby facing serious illness and little or no resources to provide the basic necessities. Poverty and illness can touch the tiniest babies and their families become overwhelmed. Through the efforts of **Newborns in Need**, a nurse or social worker can deliver an overflowing diaper bag full of clothing, blankets and hygiene products to help ensure a healthy and warm start in life.

Won't you please help us by buying or donating new or very gently used, washed and cleaned:

- Baby Clothing preemie to size 12 months (nothing larger)
- · Baby Blankets and Linens
- Diapers, Diaper Bags, Wipes, and Baby Toiletries
- Formula, Pacifiers, and Non BPA Bottles
- Infant Strollers
- Bassinets and Portacribs
- Infant Swings and Exersaucers
- Checks made out to Newborns in Need (which will be used to purchase new Pack & Play Portable Cribs)

Please note: We are **unable** to accept cribs because of safety codes or toys, stuffed animals, furniture and changing tables due to insufficient storage.

Throughout the month of March, HJC will have collection bins set up at both entrances.

Please bring your **bulk** donations, labeled from HJC to: **Lorraine Grenier**, **8 Melody Lane**, **Huntington**, **NY**

Last year, **Newborns in Need** was overwhelmed with the generosity of HJC. With everyone's support, we hope to repeat this mitzvah once again. If you need a tax receipt, please leave your name & address with your donation.

Any questions, please call **Jill Sherman**, Chairperson HJC's **Newborns in Need** drive, at **(631) 423-8133**. Thank you.

Schedule of Passover Services 5775 – 2015

Friday, April 3 Fast of the First Born and Siyyum 7:00 a.m.

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

Friday, April 3 Mincha, Maariv, First Seder 6:00 p.m. First Seder Candle Lighting 7:02 p.m.

Shabbat, April 4 Shacharit, First Day 9:30 a.m.

Second Seder Candle Lighting 7:39 p.m.

Sunday, April 5 Shacharit, Second Day 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 9 Mincha, Maariv, Seventh Day 7:00 p.m. Candle Lighting 7:06 p.m.

Friday, April 10 Shacharit, Seventh Day 9:30 a.m.

We will honor our Shabbat and Weekly Torah Readers during services

Friday, April 10 Mincha, Maariv, Eighth Day 7:00 p.m. Candle Lighting 7:06 p.m.

Shabbat, April 11 Shacharit, Yizkor, Eighth Day 9:30 a.m.

Yizkor will be recited during services on the Eighth Day.

Members of the Congregation will chant Shir HaShirim (Song of Songs) on Shabbat morning, April 11th. (All times reflect Daylight Savings Time)

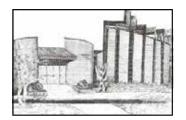
Attention all Committees of the Synagogue!!!!

Advertise your volunteer opportunities

here!!!

If you would like to post a volunteer opportunity here, please contact Kim Willen at kwillen@mac.com

Send me any and all information you have about volunteer opportunities in your group and we will list them in the Bulletin (this will be a ongoing monthly posting).



Neil Kurshan, Rabbi 423-5355

Israel Gordan, Hazzan 427-1089, ext. 22 William Wertheim
President
427-1089
Maxine Fisher
Religious School Director
427-1157

Ilene Brown
Nursery School Director
425-0525

HJC Board of Trustees/ 2014-2015 William Wertheim, President

Vicki Perler,1st V.P.Jeff Stark,TreasurerAllison Reiver,2nd V.P.Ellen Steinberg,SecretaryMichelle Stack,3rd V.P.Joel Wirchin,Admin. V.P.

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•		
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Stephen Holbreich	Felicia Messing	Susi Susskind
Todd Houslanger	Jeff Moss	Robert Weiser
Scott Ingber	Alice Rosen	

HJC Committee Chairpersons

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

March 2015 5775 Adar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
JNN	Yoga	6:15pm - Chaverim	7pm - Purim		Minyan Breakfast	9:30am - Shabbat
Purim Carnival					5pm - Family	8pm - Musical
8:30am - Morning					6pm - Friday Night	
9:15am - RS Board						
3pm - Musical						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
JNN	Yoga				6pm - Friday Night	9:30am - Shabbat
8:30am - Morning	7:30pm - EC Meeting				opin riiday iligiit	Olovani Shabbat
3pm - Musical	8pm - Sisterhood					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
JNN	Yoga	ECC Closed -		8pm - BOT Meeting	6pm - Friday Night	9:30am - Shabbat
8:30am - Morning		6:15pm - Chaverim				10:30am - Shabbat
9am - Daled Wimple						
9:30am - Vav						
10:30am - El Al						
4pm - Ridotto						
6pm - Kadima						
7:30pm - USY						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
JNN	Yoga			8pm - Sisterhood	6pm - Friday Night	9:30am - Shabbat
8:30am - Morning						
9am - RS Workshop						
9:15am - Men's Club						
9:30am - Mitzvah						
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
JNN	Yoga	9 a m - ECC Seder		ECC Closed	Ū	
Men's Club Man of	i oya	4:30pm - RS Seder		EGO GIOSEG	7am - Passover	9:30am - Shabbat
8:30am - Morning		4.00pm - 110 Seuci			6pm - Friday Night	V.VVaiii - Silabbat
9:15am - RS Board					opin Triway Hight	
9:30am - RS Model						
6pm - Kadima						
7:30pm - USY						
7.00pm - 031						





Ben Tasman Library

Come in out of the cold and warm up with a good book or two!

Lots of subjects to warm your heart and soul.

Choose from art, fiction, history, poetry,

life cycle, philosophy, cooking and much more!

And bring the kids in for a wide selection of children's books!

See you in the library!

Teen Engagement Program



We are proud to announce that the Huntington Jewish Center has received a micro-grant of \$750 for Teen Engagement. This money will be used to make it possible for our teens to volunteer in our HIHI (Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative) program at no cost to our volunteers. We are calling on all interested teenagers to attend a meeting at 10:30am on Sunday, March 1st where we will learn about and discuss the issue of homelessness on Long Island as well as the Jewish response to it, including our own HIHI program. These teens will then be involved with implementing the entire HIHI program on Wednesday, March 11th including cooking dinner, preparing lunch, setting up the room, and serving the men. Our volunteers normally cover these costs, but our grant will allow our teens to participate for free.

This initiative is part of a larger effort to engage our teens including through leading services and/or reading Torah, becoming active in our USY chapter, and getting involved with our Storytelling Project, among other opportunities.

If you have any questions regarding this grant and all of our opportunities for teens, please feel free to contact Cantor Israel Gordan at (631) 427-1089, x22 or at cantorgordan@hjcny.org. For more information on the following programs, please contact the following people:

HIHI (Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative

Storytelling Project USY Ellen Steinberg (ellen.steinberg728@gmail.com) Karen Flanzenbaum (kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com) Nancy Berlow (nancyberlow@gmail.com) Rebecca Buzen (rbuzen@gmail.com)

This grant is brought to us be the Jewish Education Project which is made possible by UJA Federation of New York (or whatever the language and images are supposed to be here)...



A Taste of Passover



Thursday, March 26th at 8:00 PM

Sisterhood, Men's Club, and ECC invite you to
Experience new flavors,
Remember old ones
Cooking Demonstrations, Tastings, and Recipes
Try different varieties of wine, matzah, charoset, gefilte fish, desserts and morel

Open to All!

Volunteers still needed to share a recipe, demonstrate a dish, bake or cook for tasting...

Please RSVP to

Donna Fleiss: donna.fleiss@gmail.com or 631-385-7850

Andrea Morris: joligran@gmail.com or 631-427-4798

Gift Shop will be open for your Passover needs

HJC Community News

MAZAL TOV

Liz & Steve Holbreich announce the birth of their twin grandchildren, Madeline Rose & Nathan Mark Holbreich.

Marge & Larry Maltin announce the marriage of their daughter, Samantha, to John-Claude Saltiel.

CONDOLENCES

Janis Solotoff on the death of her mother, Shelley Silverstein

Madeline Nack on the death of her mother, Estelle Tropp

Arnold Schwartz on the death of his mother, Rosalyn H. Schwartz

NEW MEMBERS

Daniel & Ellen Teebor of Plainview and their children; Aaron, age 20 and Lauren, age 18.

Carmen Weissberg of Greenlawn and her grandson, Simon, age 8.



HJC Blood Drive

In memory of Ethel Tasman Fleiss

Tuesday, March 24th 3-9 pm

Blood supplies on LI are low right now due to many recent blood drives being cancelled because of inclement weather. Please consider donating.

*Must have valid picture ID

* Minimum weight is 110 lbs

*Must be between16 -76 years of age

Please contact:

Jennifer Ingber 757-5056, jen81rn@gmail.com Or

Donna Fleiss 385-7850, Donna.fleiss@gmail.com

Come and See Kiss Me, Kate





President's Perspective

by William Wertheim



Well, the calendar tells me that spring is around the corner, even if my thermometer says otherwise. I think it's safe to say that we are all looking forward to warmer weather. However, despite the cold, there is lots to report to you about the goings-on at HJC.

By now you should all have your new security cards or key fobs (unless you're in Florida, of course). While nothing ever goes

without a few kinks, overall this has been a smooth and positive change for our synagogue community. None of us like change; I recall when we instituted the keypads over 10 years ago not everyone was happy. But we can see over time that this is, like the keypad in its time, a needed and appropriate step to provide better security for our congregation. I appreciate all of your patience and flexibility.

On the office front, I am very happy to share some exciting news: the Executive Director search committee, chaired by Ellen Steinberg and Andy Levy, has successfully concluded its search, and we have officially hired Barbara Axmacher to be our new HJC executive director. Barbara is a delightful person, and I know you will all be very happy with her when you meet her, and she will work very well with all of us. She will begin her duties on March 2nd. Barbara is a Huntington resident, and she has extensive experience working with a variety of non-profits in Huntington. She's very well-connected! She also has a wealth of exciting new ideas about how we as a synagogue can conduct ourselves and interact with the rest of the community, Jewish and otherwise, going forward. She is a great addition to our synagogue, and I'm really thrilled. We will be scheduling a series of "get-to-know-us" meetings with her, so stay tuned! I also want to thank the committee who worked so hard and so well to bring this search to a successful conclusion: in addition to Ellen and Andy, Shari Feibel, Alan Orloff, Louis Walsdorf, Ethel Sachs, and Joel Wirchin did outstanding jobs, one and all. They also got key input from Cantor Gordan and Rabbi Kurshan, both of whose involvement was crucial to helping the committee. Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn't thank and acknowledge the hard work of Andy Levy, who has been managing the office during this interregnum period, and doing a terrific job.

In the meanwhile, I, like many others in the congregation, have been consumed by the play. Kiss Me, Kate will be an amazing show, and I hope all of you are planning to see it! Th cast and crew are hard at work putting the finishing touches on it, from dancing to singing to sets to costumes to props to ads and ticket sales and much more. I can't really thank everyone who's involved in it because I'd exceed my



Women's League and Torah Fund

All contributions to Torah Fund are used to fund specific projects or towards scholarships at the Jewish Theological Seminary (New York), Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies (Los Angeles) and the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem). Please contact Vicki Rosen or Ethel Sachs to make a donation. Our Woman of Achievement will be honored on June 3, 2015 at the BQLI Awards & Dinner Gala at Temple Israel in Great Neck.

Purim and Hamentaschen

Sisterhood sponsored the Baking and Sale of Hamentaschen for Purim. Thank you to Jeff Moss, Donna Fleiss and all the volunteers who made dough and baked Hamentaschen. All monies from the sale are used to support our HJC Community. Thank you to Allison Reiver and Kaaran Pashkin for chairing the sale of Mishloach Manot which was managed by Happy Purim.

Passover

All Religious School Seders are sponsored by Sisterhood. The annual event Taste of Passover will be held on Thursday night March 26th. This event is co-sponsored by Men's Club and the Early Childhood Center. Congregants are invited to prepare and or share their favorite Passover Recipes. Copies of the Passover Recipes are available at the event.

Spring Rummage Sale

As you do your spring cleaning, please set aside any gently used clothing and household items for the Spring Rummage Sale. Drop off Dates are April 16th & 17th and the Sale will be held on April 19th & 20th.

Upcoming Events

3/26 - Taste of Passover

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

word limit, but a special thanks to our producers—Maxine Fisher, Andrea Morris, and Miriam Wirchin for their truly tireless efforts. And if you come see the show, I promise you will see a side of me you haven't seen before....

My last note for this month is a personal one. Though I rarely talk about much in my own family, many of you already know that my wife Rosalind, who is a public health research scientist, is going to be away for 6 months on assignment for the CDC working on an Ebola vaccine trial. While I hate to be apart from her for so long, I am proud that she is giving of herself to do such important work. "Asah tzedakah u'mishpat--nivchar lahashem mizavach": To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice (Proverbs 21:3).



Having Our Teens "Drop-In"

by Hazzan Israel Gordan



As is commonly known, there are many "drop-off" points in the life of a synagogue community: after ECC, after the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, when parents become empty-nesters, after someone finishes saying kaddish, when someone completes his/her time on the board and/or EC or other volunteer leadership position. It is at these moments that we lose individuals and families. Before this point, there was a reason pulling someone to belong and stay connected to the HJC community. After that point, that

reason no longer exists and many people drift away, or simply, "drop-off." I believe we can do more as a synagogue and do a better job at engaging the many different demographics within our population. I am excited to report about a specific effort aimed at one of those groups: our teens.

I applied for and received a micro-grant from the Jewish Education Project (which is itself a beneficiary of UJA-Federation of New York) on behalf of the HJC. This grant for \$750 will allow us to provide an opportunity for our teens to volunteer in our HIHI program. Normally, our HIHI program is paid for by the volunteers themselves, bringing the food that will be cooked for dinner and prepared for lunch, in addition to the setup, serving, and cleaning of the meals. We will be able to use the money from the grant so that our teens will not have to pay to volunteer. We are also planning on having a meeting on March 1st to learn about and discuss the problem of homelessness on Long Island as well as the Jewish response to it. The HIHI volunteer date that we have set at the HJC for our teens to be involved is March 11th. Ellen Steinberg has been working on this with me and we are very excited to reach out to this specific subset of our population. We hope we will attract a large number of our teens who will hopefully become more connected to life at the HJC.

The grant as it applies to HIHI is just part of a wider effort to make better advances towards our teen members. We see very few of our teen members on a regular basis after the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. But through HIHI, as well as opportunities to lead services and read Torah, get involved in our Storytelling Project, becoming involved in our USY chapter as well as other options, we hope to see more of our teens around. This applies to all of our different populations. We want more of our ECC families to sign their kids up for Religious School. We want more of our emptynesters involved in synagogue. When someone finishes their time on the Board of Trustees, we hope it is just the beginning of their service to the HJC. And we have to give them reasons to do so.

The answers to these problems can't come from one person or initiative, but we hope this is a community-wide effort to bring people in, and make them feel connected, so they'll want to stay. We can only do this with your help, so please, join us!

Religious School Update

by Maxine Fisher Religious School Administrator

As we enter March, let's hope that we will soon have warmer weather.

Leading us into Purim on Sunday, March 1st we start with the Youth Group's Purim Carnival. Religious School will start at 9:00 and end at 11:00, when parents should pick up their children and take them to the carnival for a fun time.

Purim starts Wednesday, March 4 with the Megillah reading at 7:00 PM. It is a fun evening for children and adults alike. Come in costume and help drown out evil Haman's name! Please bring a box of Kosher mac and cheese (to use as a grogger) and cans of food which will be donated to Rock Can Roll, who will donate the food to local Huntington area pantries. Sisterhood will provide groggers and hamentashen at the end of services.

On Sunday, March 15 the Gimel and Daled classes will make wimples in a family workshop.

That is also the date of the next Vav workshop.

Sunday, March 22 is Mitzvah Day from 10:00-12:00 We will have a list of Mitzvot that students, parents, and the congregation can volunteer to work on.

That day is also the last Vav workshop.

March 29 and 31 are the Religious School model seders.

Keep safe and warm,

Light a Candle, Preserve a Memory

Seventy Years Since Liberation

This April 15th, Yom HaShoah will mark a milestone: seventy years since liberation of the Nazi camps at the end of World War II. Seventy years, and we still live in a world where the imperative from that time, Never Again! - feels as urgent and relevant as ever.

To commemorate this occasion, the Men's Club will soon be delivering, to every member of the congregation, a yellow yahrzeit candle to light at our homes on the evening of April 15th. In addition, we will all have the chance to participate as a community in a Worldwide Million Candle Challenge, to remember the more than 1 million children who perished in the



Please look for more information on this important program in upcoming flyers. It does not take much to participate, yet it is crucial to who we are as a people. In the words of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, "To us Jews, the essence of faith is memory. To believe is to remember."

Bet Family Education





Thank Yous

On behalf of our HIHI program we would like to thank
Andrew Feldman of Woodbury Kosher Meats
for his generous donation of a delicious Christmas dinner
for our homeless guests for the past four years.

Ellen Steinberg and Karen Flanzenbaum

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Mrs. Paul Popkin and family wish to express their belated and most sincere apologies for this tardy acknowledgement of the donations in memory of their beloved husband and father, Paul Popkin. In addition, they are most grateful for the contributions which were received at an earlier time.

Todah Rabah.

Partners in Caring Counseling Available

Under the auspices of **Partners in Caring**, a UJA funded program bringing together FEGS Health and Human Services (the region's Jewish human services agency) and synagogues, we have the services of FEGS social worker, **Hillary Lagnado**, available to Huntington Jewish Center members.

Partners in Caring brings educational programs and workshops, volunteer opportunities and projects to the synagogue. Free and confidential short-term individual, couples, and family counseling and referral services are available to our members. Children, adolescents and adults are welcome.

For more information or to speak to a social worker, please contact:

Hillary Lagnado LCSW-R, at 516-496-7550 x302267 or by e-mail at Hlagnado@fegs.org.

Rabbi con't from page 1

with the material which was then under development. Following Passover we will be starting two small groups each limited to a maximum of twelve people to work with the material. The groups will be opportunities for reflection and discussion rather than seminars or lectures. Texts for this project are selected not as ends in themselves, but rather for their ability to draw out our personal experience and to deepen our insight. From the materials that I have seen to date, I can promise that they are powerful, personal and provocative.

For too long the "declinist" view of aging has reigned in our

culture. Growing older has been associated with invisibility, declining beauty and strength, and increasing limitations. Crossing the threshold of 50 has been something to dread rather than welcome. The Wise Aging program, while not being Pollyannaish, suggests the possibilities for growth in wisdom, depth, and satisfying relationships during this stage of life.

The Wise Aging project will not give you the number that will make you financially whole, but I can promise that it will give you the wisdom to be at peace within your soul.

Early Childhood News



The ECC at Huntington Jewish Center "Pays It Forward" with random acts of kindness!

"We can change the world one good deed at a time."

We rolled out the first ever Pay it Forward/Random Acts of Kindness Event. It is never too young to learn how important kindness is and to introduce character education. We introduced the children to this

very important event through literature, discussion and modeling. We talked about the importance of kindness in our community and world and decided to take it as far as we could. We began with a "chain of kindness". Every time a student, staff person OR parent committed a random act of kindness, we documented the act on a strip of paper and added it to the chain of kindness that is now hanging in the school's hall. Some random acts of kindness at the parents and staff level have included shoveling neighbor's driveways, paying for breakfast for people on line behind them, bringing dinner to an elderly neighbor, etc. The children have demonstrated their kindness by offering their seat for another child, making pictures for another teacher, helping at home without solicitation. We also brought these strips of papers into several local public schools and libraries. We have kindness boxes, where others can document their acts of kindness on the paper strips and we will add it to the chain of kindness. I should mention that the paper strips are on recycled paper so that we may pay it forward to the Earth.

In addition each class was responsible for putting together an act of kindness that helps the community:

The 2 year old classes: They are collecting items asked for by the Little Shelter.

One of the 3 year old classes: They baked trays of brownies and then hand delivered them to the local fire departments for the dedicated fire fighters.

Another 3 year old class: They are collecting DVD's and video games for the Cohen's Children Center at LIJ.

The Pre-K class: They performed several songs at the Carillon Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on February 9, 2015.

The After Care class: These children have made beautiful cards and posters for the Cohen's Children's Hospital.

We have also had local high school students paying it forward. Some orchestra and band members from Huntington High and Walt Whitman High Schools have voluntarily come to perform songs for our Early Childhood Center.

It has been our goal to spread kindness not only in our school, but in the community in which we live in.









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



"HJC's Presence Holds the Space in which We Can Explore Judaism"

Marsha Perlmutter Kalina and Ira Kalina

It was a conversation with Brian Cooper one holiday morning nine years ago that swayed Marsha and Ira to join the HJC. "Brian shared with me that he and Nancy had lived on a

kibbutz in Israel, had been part of a Jewish community in Plainview and yet, for a variety of reasons, chose to become members at HJC. After the conversation Marsha thought, "If Brian and Nancy could be comfortable at the HJC then so could we."

Finding the right place to belong had not been simple for Marsha and Ira. Although both children of Holocaust survivors, they came from very different backgrounds. Ira had grown up going to an Orthodox synagogue in Brooklyn. He found the atmosphere to be unwelcoming, harshly critical and intolerably constricting. He had no interest in Hebrew school or the pressure to obey so many rules. He rebelled and had not found another synagogue that spoke to him.

While Marsha also did not appreciate the value that the Modern Orthodox or liberal expressions of Conservative Judaism she was exposed to, attending Brandeis Camp Institute under the direction of Dr. Shlomo Bardin, the summer before her senior year at college sparked an interest in finding meaning in Judaism apart from her parents' legacy of being Holocaust survivors. She came to appreciate the social, artistic, ritual and spiritual aspects Judaism had to offer. The program inspired her to spend nine months in Israel after she graduated college, working and studying on a kibbutz, traveling throughout the country, and visiting with and getting to know more deeply, her family and friends who lived there. Later, while living in Riverdale, she wanted to understand more about Judaism as an adult and so began to attended the Beginner's minyan at Lincoln Square Synagogue. She also took classes in their adult learning program. "The teachers at Lincoln Square had a passion for what they were teaching that engaged me fully. I wanted to find a non-Orthodox place like that in the Huntington area."

When she met Ira, Marsha had been a single woman living in New York City and working as the Director of the Therapeutic Activities department at a prominent psychiatric hospital. She had a strong sense of community in the worlds of dance, dance therapy and psychology. Ira, a psychologist, had been a member at Beth El to provide a place where his sons could be become B'nei Mitzvah but he had no lasting interest or motivation to remain beyond that.

When Marsha and Ira married, she moved to Centerport and joined him in raising his two teenage sons. She knew she wanted to become part of a community and thought doing so through a synagogue would be the best way. However, settling into a community was delayed while Marsha pursued her doctoral studies, adjusted to living on Long Island and took on the responsibilities as a wife and stepmother. The process of joining a community was also interrupted because she and Ira spent every Rosh Hashanah in Florida with their aging parents. Attending services on the other holidays allowed for only the most superficial exposure to get a feel for any congregation. There were attractive aspects to each of the local synagogues but no compelling reason to join any one of them. That is, until that conversation with Brian.

That summer Marsha's father's health turned for the worse. Marsha decided it was time to make a commitment to one shul; to enter into a Jewish community and try to make it a spiritual home. Ira, while supporting her in her search, did not feel drawn to the search for himself. Marsha wanted a place where prayer and study would be "alive!" – where people in the community would be able to discuss their spirituality, explore their personal beliefs, understanding of and feeling for God that would draw upon meaningful, thought-driven, rather than habit-driven, experiences. The conversation with Brian and meeting Nancy afterward sealed the deal. The Kalinas joined the HJC.

After her father's passing that December, Marsha attended morning minyan well passed the mourning period. This daily early morning connection through prayer in the intimacy of the Lief Chapel provided a structure for her throughout the mourning process and nourished her. When she began a new job with a long commute, attending morning minyan daily was no longer possible. Rabbi Kurshan sagely advised her to choose one day in the week when she could manage it, which she later was able to do. Marsha says, "I feel honored every time I get called up for an aliyah." My father's yahrtzeit is on Rosh Chodesh, a day when the Torah is read. When I am called up I feel it is an honor to participate in the prayer service in this very direct way.

In addition to being honored with aliyot in morning minyan, the experience of Peter Pitzele and Elizabeth Yaari teaching Peter's bibliodrama technique on the Parsha that tells the story of Jacob's Dream of the Ladder with angels ascending and descending to the heavens was very powerful. Marsha was so taken by it that she went to SAJES for several years to participate with them in their Explora-Torah

Donations אדקה

GENERAL FUND

Howard Baker in memory of Abraham Baker at yahrzeit.
Lesley Stark in memory of Jack Magaril at yahrzeit.
Lesley Stark in memory of Sandra Magaril at yahrzeit.
Mark Zimmerman in memory of Irvin Zimmerman at yahrzeit.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in memory of Max Black at yahrzeit.
Shimmy & Ralph Kornblatt in memory of Esther Vickers.
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Tania & Marvin Lipkind in memory of Esther Lipkind at yahrzeit.
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Lee Pedowicz in memory of Jack Pedowicz at yahrzeit.
Dale & Phil Mintz in memory of Louis Mintz at yahrzeit.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Benjamin Barfus at yahrzeit.
Nancy & Brian Cooper in memory of Joel Wertheim, brother of Richard Wertheim.

Gloria Safran in memory of Louis Stecker at yahrzeit. Gloria Safran in memory of Murray Safran at yahrzeit. Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Michael Cohen at yahrzeit. Paulette F. Schiffman in memory of Charles Fritz at yahrzeit. Rhoda Cohen in honor of the 95th birthday of Adele Kalstein. Rosalyn Haber in memory of Herbert Haber at yahrzeit. Rosalyn Haber in memory of Betty Simon at yahrzeit. Joyce Sacknoff in memory of Sidney Fuchs at yahrzeit. Steven Lax in memory of Harold Lax at yahrzeit. Maxine Liebowitz in memory of Abraham Edelstein at yahrzeit. Marilyn Koven in memory of Lillian Frank at yahrzeit. David Walsdorf in memory of Burt Walsdorf at yahrzeit. David Walsdorf in memory of Jennie Silverstein at yahrzeit. Rissa Walsdorf in memory of Isabel Winters at yahrzeit. Ben Eckstein in memory of Louisa Eckstein at yahrzeit. David Schoenfarber in memory of Bertel Robbins at yahrzeit. Jeffrey Levitt in memory of Alfred Levitt at yahrzeit. Diane & Steven Block in memory of Max Block at yahrzeit. Lawrence Tannenbaum in memory of Sarah Tannenbaum at vahrzeit.

Burt Epstein in memory of Ceil Epstein at yahrzeit.
Sema & Sam Stein in memory of Belle Jayson at yahrzeit.
Vicki Perler in memory of Herman Held at yahrzeit.
Robert Bookbinder in memory of Harry Bookbinder at yahrzeit.
Barry Chase in memory of Israel Chase at yahrzeit.
Cynthia Aboff Seretan in memory of Edward Seretan at yahrzeit.

Ethel Schwartz Bock in memory of Rose Schwartz at yahrzeit. Richard Wertheim in memory of Seymour Wertheim at yahrzeit. Carol & Marshall Adelstein in memory of Albert Moak at yahrzeit.

Jeff Stark in memory of Bella Stark at yahrzeit.

Annette Aronson Jurkowitz in memory of Paul Popkin,
husband of Mitzi Popkin.

Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Saul Wyatt at yahrzeit. Leonard Kramer in memory of Ethel Kramer at yahrzeit. Arlene Boshnack in memory of Leonard Borger at yahrzeit. William Wertheim in memory of Judith Wertheim at yahrzeit. Peter Cohn in memory of Carol Cohn at yahrzeit. Joanne Cohn in memory of Harry Mulberg at yahrzeit.
Ed Schindler in memory of Aaron Schindler at yahrzeit.
The Fleiss family in memory of Anna Tasman at yahrzeit.
Loron Simon in memory of Geraldine Simon at yahrzeit.
Arnold Schwartz in memory of Daniel Schwartz at yahrzeit.
Mira & Paul Brodsky in honor of the birth of Madeline Rose
& Nathan Mark Holbreich, twin grandchildren of Liz &
Steve Holbriech.

Susan Lax in memory of Jack Kleiman at yahrzeit. Marvin Marsh in memory of Ruth Marsh at yahrzeit. Mark Wax in memory of Irving Wax at yahrzeit. Richard Klee in memory of Miriam Klee at yahrzeit. Ian Winkler in memory of Roslyn Winkler at yahrzeit.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Linda & Howard Novick in memory of David Novick at yahrzeit. Risa & Noah Finkel in memory of Esther Vickers.

Risa & Noah Finkel in memory of Joel Wertheim, brother of Richard Wertheim.

Nina & Jeff Harmon with thanks & appreciation to Rabbi Kurshan for his help in preparing Ben for his Bar Mitzvah. Jennifer & Robert Gordon in memory of Harvey Gordon. Emily Cutler in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Ilyssa, daughter of Debbie & David Stein.

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in memory of Estelle Tropp, mother of Madeline Nack.

Susan Board in memory of Sam Lipsky at yahrzeit. Susan Board in memory of Murray Lipsky at yahrzeit.

Arlene & Art Boshnack in memory of Jocelyn Goldstein, mother of Howard Goldstein.

Roberta Solar & Rob Schumeister wishing a speedy recovery to Selma Greenstein.

Joseph Glassman in memory of Clinton Glassman at yahrzeit. Marjorie Maltin in memory of Joseph Solomon at yahrzeit. Risa & Noah Finkel in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Carol & Marty Cohen.

Risa & Noah Finkel in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Liz & Steve Holbreich.

ARK & PULPIT FUND

Joan Blank in memory of Esther Vickers.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Marianne Sokol in memory of Esther Vickers.

Sy Schpoont in memory of Paul Popkin, husband of Mitzi
Popkin.

Syd & Mike Schlesinger in memory of Mildred Harmon at yahrzeit.

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Joel Wertheim, brother of Richard Wertheim.

Donna Fleiss in memory of Loretta Nadler at yahrzeit. The Fleiss family in memory of Michele Fleiss at yahrzeit.

Donations אדקה

CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Nina & Jeff Harmon with thanks & appreciation to Cantor Gordan for his help in preparing Ben for his Bar Mitzvah.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Fern Grunberger in memory of Twiglet.

Randi & Alan Schuller in memory of Elaine Bodian at yahrzeit.

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Betty Goldgeier at yahrzeit.

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Harold Hammerschlag at vahrzeit.

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Charlotte Hammerschlag at yahrzeit.

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Fritz Hammerschlag at yahrzeit.

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Willy Loewenstein at yahrzeit.

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Anny Loewenstein at yahrzeit.

Mark Klein in honor of the birth of Samara Klein, daughter of Stephanie Klein.

Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Chester Rubin.

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in memory of Myra Berkowitz, sister of Joan Mattisinko.

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in honor of the special birthday of Elaine Kleinmann.

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in memory of Shelley Silverstein, mother of Janis Solotoff.

Rina & Eric Jaffe in memory of Shelley Silverstein, mother of Janis Solotoff.

COLLEGIATE FUND

Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in honor of the birth of Tamir Yaakov Simonovich Kurshan, grandson of Rabbi Neil & Alisa Rubin Kurshan.

Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Jaffe, grandson of Leila & Elliott Waldman.

Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in memory of Esther Vickers.

Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in memory of Paul Popkin, husband of Mitzi Popkin.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Jack M. Pedowicz at yahrzeit. Bea Pedowicz in memory of Bob Mane, husband of Florence Mane.

Nancy & Brian Cooper in memory of Harvey Marcus, father of Andrea Smoller.

Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of Andy Levy for his outstanding dedication & devotion to the Huntington Jewish Center.

Vicki & Tom Rosen wishing a speedy recovery to Selma Greenstein.

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Ely Rencoff at yahrzeit.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of Ellen & Jay Steinberg being

named the Camp Ramah in the Berkshires 2014 Annual Fund Dinner honorees.

Judith & Lester Fox in memory of Esther Vickers.

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the marriage of Josh, son of Gail & Jerry Ellstein, to Rebecca Levin.

Judith & Lester Fox in memory of Ron Dubrow.

Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of Ellen & Jay Steinberg being named the Camp Ramah in the Berkshires 2014 Annual Fund Dinner honorees.

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the marriage of Rachel Kramer, granddaughter of Helga & Al Kramer, to Rob Kaufmann.

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Benny Wolfer, grandson of Gail & Eddie Joseph.

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Abraham, grandson of Barbara & Paul Bermanski.

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of the 13th wedding anniversary of Meri & Ed Schindler.

Marilyn & Gary Woghin in memory of Albert Moak at yahrzeit. Judith & Lester Fox wishing a speedy recovery to Gary Woghin.

Judith & Lester Fox wishing a speedy recovery to Selma Greenstein.

DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Jennifer & Robert Gordon

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the birth of Tamir Yaakov Simonovich Kurshan, grandson of Rabbi Neil & Alisa Rubin Kurshan.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Laurie & Donald Haber in memory of Herbert Haber at yahrzeit.

HJC Babysitters:

Grace Willen home: 631-754-5865

cell: 631-871-1477

Rachel Moss cell: 631-944-1420

Noah Morris cell: 631-427-4798.

Babysitters - email your current information to put

here!

Please send your updated information to kwillen@mac.com include your current home and cell numbers

Donations **Donations**

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Joan Blank in memory of Paul Popkin, husband of Mitzi Popkin. Cory & Justin Solotoff in memory of Shelley Silverstein, mother of Janis Solotoff.

Rina & Eric Jaffe in memory of Larry Solotoff at yahrzeit.

Dalia & Marv Rosenthal in honor of the birth of Madeline Rose
& Nathan Mark Holbreich, twin grandchildren of Liz &
Steve Holbriech.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Marilyn Johnson Alex Steinberg Marie & Gary Trager Sy Schpoont Jina & Ben Eckstein

Susi Susskind in memory of Esther Vickers.

Susi Susskind in memory of Harvey Marcus, father of Andrea Smoller.

Susi Susskind in memory of Paula Kalina, mother of Ira Kalina. Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Jocelyn Goldstein, mother of Howard Goldstein.

Charlotte Rosen in honor of the birth of Tamir Yaakov Simonovich Kurshan, grandson of Rabbi Neil & Alisa Rubin Kurshan.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the birth of Madeline Rose & Nathan Mark Holbreich, twin grandchildren of Liz & Steve Holbriech.

Nancy & Brian Cooper in memory of Warren Elisco, brother in law of Daniel & Dafna Stein.

Pamela Geller in memory of Isaac Geller at yahrzeit. Hannah Kampel in memory of Elizabeth Leventhal, mother of Barbara Friedman.

Amira Garbus in memory of Esther Vickers.

Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Estelle Tropp, mother of Madeline Nack.

Ellen Kahn in memory of Naomi Friedman.

Janet & Martin Kushnick in memory of Aaron Labb at yahrzeit. Joan & Norman Mattisinko in appreciation to Kim & Joe Willen for their gracious hospitality.

Joan & Norman Mattisinko in appreciation to Victoria & Todd Houslanger for their gracious hospitality.

Marsha Buchholtz in memory of Fanny Wolinsky at yahrzeit. Laurie & Donald Haber in memory of Herbert Haber at yahrzeit. Alice Greene in memory of Paul Popkin, husband of Mitzi Popkin.

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Estelle Tropp, mother of Madeline Nack.

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Rose Hankin Epstein at yahrzeit.

Sarah & Jerry Saunders wishing a speedy recovery to Joe Koreen.

Rene Levy in memory of Rose Zucker at yahrzeit.

Rosalind & Martin Spielman in memory of Adolph Spielman at yahrzeit.

Janet & Martin Kushnick in memory of Benjamin Kushnick at yahrzeit.

Eleanor Siperowitz in memory of Louis Siperowitz at yahrzeit.

YOUTH FUND

Alex Steinberg

YVONNE COHEN DEDICATION FUND

Nancy & Brian Cooper in memory of Paula Kalina, mother of Ira Kalina.

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program. It was extremely meaningful and enriching for her.

It has been several years since Marsha and Ira Kalina have made the HJC their home. When asked what they cherish about this community as a couple, this was their reply:

"Our Chavurah. It feels like a community of peers who are open, supportive, and friendly." And because we are Jewish" says Ira, "they provide a connection to the synagogue that I would not have otherwise." Marsha adds, "The Chavurah is our smaller community within the larger community. Ours has an intimacy to it, a sense of connection, openness and sincere friendliness. We are knowledgeable people, and our sharing of ourselves is generous and inclusive. We have created a group with a very welcoming atmosphere."

How has HJC blessed you?

"Just by its presence, HJC provides a space in which we can explore our relationship to Judaism; where we can experience our tradition's many manifestations at this moment in history:

What are important aspects of HJC for you? Prayer, study, Chavurah, Joanne's garden, adult education, children being taught at the school, the Rabbi's adult education classes and personal counsel, Cantor Gordan bringing new music and a youthful energy. These are things that are meaningful to us." *Interview compiled by Dafna Saltes Stein, Marsha Perlmutter Kalina, Ira Kalina.*



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