



HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION



by Rabbi Kurshan

Motherless Day

How to you celebrate Mother's Day without a mother? This is not a question I have ever had to ask myself until this year. This past year, Mother's Day was one of the last days I spent with my mother. Even if it was not always possible to spend Mother's Day (or Father's Day) with my parents in New Jersey, minimally it was a time for an extended phone call and an opportunity to express my appreciation to my parents for their unconditional love and support.

Truth be told, I was never big on Mother's Day, and I was always a little cynical about it. It seemed like a commercial creation that actually underplayed the centrality in Jewish tradition of Kibud Av v'Em (honoring one's parents). Our tradition tells us that we are supposed to imagine our parents as the most important people in the world. Every day is a mother's day and father's day in Judaism. But, of course, there

is a value in singling out a day for what we often take for granted.

My sister and I were the center of my mother's life. My mother lived to have and raise children, and she was devoted to us. Every night there was a home cooked meal on the table with an appetizer, a main course, and a dessert. Every day there were milk and cookies when we came home from school—even through high school.

Yet, my mother was not just a traditional homemaker. She shaped my views about feminism because long before it was fashionable she had a full time career. She balanced a strong presence at home with a life-long career as a teacher, and showed me that it was possible to do both gracefully. I took it for granted that there should be no difference in the workplace in the opportunities for men and women.

Judaism tells many stories about the importance of the love of a mother. My favorite is the story of God sending an angel to earth to return with the three items most worthy of a place in heaven. The angel descends to earth and enters a garden. He plucks a beautiful rose in full bloom and brings it back to heaven. Next, he hovers over a house with a child sleeping peacefully and brings the child's placid smile back to heaven. Struggling to find a third object, the angel flies back and forth over the earth until he sees a mother devotedly going about her work and ministering to her children. The angel gathers this mother's love and brings it back to heaven. The rose soon withers,

A Taste of Passover:

The 6th Annual A Taste of Passover took place on March 26. The event, sponsored by HJC Sisterhood, Men's Club and ECC, was a delicious success!



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Shavuot Services Schedule

1st Evening Shavuot--**Saturday evening, May 23 at 8:00 pm** in Main Sanctuary followed by Shavuot Tikkun (Study Session)

2nd Evening Shavuot--**Sunday evening, May 24 at 8:00 pm** in Main Sanctuary--School Awards Night

1st Morning Shavuot--**Sunday, May 24 at 9:30 am** in Main Sanctuary--Welcome to Newborns and Chanting of the Book of Ruth

2nd Morning Shavuot--**Monday, May 25 at 9:30 am** in Main Sanctuary--Yizkor

Shavuot Tikkun (Study Session)--

“Powerful Psukim”

Saturday Night, May 23 at 8:00 pm

HJC congregants will share their favorite Psukim (Biblical verses) or passages from the liturgy and explain why these words from Jewish tradition have touched them deeply or altered their lives. Watch for the list of congregants who will be participating. The Tikkun will immediately follow services which begin at 8:00 pm. For further information contact Rabbi Kurshan at hjcrabbi@optonline.net

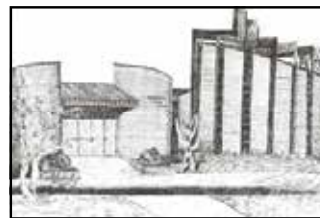
MINYAN IN THE PARK

The annual Caumsett Park Minyan will be held **Sunday, June 7 at 7:30am in Lloyd Neck**. Meet at the Park entrance at 7:30am with bicycles or walking shoes. Congregants who want auto transportation from the Park entrance or who need directions are asked to call the HJC office in advance. Breakfast in the park, sponsored by Lester Fox, will follow the service. In case of inclement weather, call 423-5355 after 6:30 am for update.

Graduating Seniors Shabbat

Join us **June 6th** to celebrate our graduating high school seniors as they participate in shabbat services.

Kiddush hosted by the families following services



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

Barbara Axmacher
Executive Director
427-1089, ext. 23

HJC Board of Trustees/ 2014-2015

William Wertheim, President

Vicki Perler, 1st V.P.

Allison Reiver, 2nd V.P.

Michelle Stack, 3rd V.P.

Jeff Stark, Treasurer

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Scott Ingber
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Jeffrey Levine
Andy Levy
Felicia Messing
Alice Rosen

Andrea Smoller
Darryn Solotoff
Debbie Stein
Susi Susskind
Robert Wieser

HJC Committee Chairpersons

Bulletin.....Kim Willen
Calendar.....Gwen Goldstein
Cemetery.....Louis Walsdorf
Chai Club.....
Congregational Dinners.....Lesley Stark, Michelle Stack, Joanne Cohen
Finance Committee.....Arthur Perler
Family Life.....Susan Hepworth, Cari Schuller, Andrea Morris, Lisa Hadar
Fundraising.....Robert Wieser
Greeters.....Maxine Fisher
High Holiday Honors.....Joel Kuppersmith
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



May 2015 - Iyar/Sivan

5775

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
					Newborns in Need Drive	
					Minyan Breakfast	9:30am - Shabbat
					8pm - Friday Night	
					8pm - Gimel/Dalet	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Newborns in Need Drive						
JNN	Yoga	6:15pm - Chaverim			ECC Mother's Day	9:30am - Shabbat
8:30am - Minyan	11am - S/hood Book				8pm - Friday Night	10am - Shabbaton-
4pm - Ridotto	7:30pm - Wise Aging					
6pm - Kadima						
7:30pm - USY						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Newborns in Need Drive						
JNN	Food Drive					
RS Closed	Yoga	7:30pm - Wise Aging		12:45pm - Prof. Staff	8pm - Friday Night	Bat Mitzvah
8:30am - Minyan	7:30pm - EC Meeting			8pm - BOT Meeting		9:30am - Shabbat
	8pm - Sisterhood Board					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Newborns in Need Drive						
Food Drive						
JNN	Yoga	4:30pm - RS			8pm - Friday Night	9:30am - Shabbat
8:30am - Minyan	7:30pm - Wise Aging	6:30pm - Mitzvah Team				8pm - Shavout Services
9:15am - Men's Club						8pm - Tikkun "Powerful"
9:15am - RS Board						
6pm - Kadima						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Newborns in Need Drive						
Food Drive					8pm - Friday Night	9:30am - Shabbat
JNN	ECC Closed	9:30am - Shavout				
RS Closed	Main Office Closed	9:30am - Yizkor				
8:30am - Minyan	9:30am - Shavout	6:15pm - Chaverim				
8pm - RS Awards	9:30am - Welcome to					
8pm - Shavout Services						
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Newborns in Need						
JNN						
8:30am - Minyan						

View from the Director's Chair

by Barbara Axmacher



On A Clear Day You Can See Forever.

If you asked me 5 years ago if I saw myself as the Executive Director of a Long Island conservative synagogue, I would have said no. Actually, if you had asked me 6 months ago, I still would have said no. But now, as I sit, thoughtfully perched on a branch in this hundred (plus) year old tree, its roots firmly planted in

the Huntington community, I see something I did not see before.

It is a dutiful task, reaching out to others, in the name of the common good. It requires conviction (no matter the cause); tenacity, strength and hope - that's the easy stuff. We are mindful of the future of our suburban Jewish life as our concerns loom; Membership. Enrollment. Security – that's the hard stuff. In the end, however, it's all good stuff binding us together, providing a peaceful place to share, learn and grow.

The core of who the HJC family is and what you mean to each other is over 100 years in the making. This congregation has spent over a century defining (and re-defining) its message loud and strong, full of wisdom and compassion. For me, there is much to be learned but there is also much to be given and so very much here for the taking.

The choice to participate, to see and to be seen beyond these four walls – that is our challenge. My vision for HJC's future is clear . . . and how it will astound you that the glow of "our" being will outshine every star.

Newborns in Need - update

Our fifth annual Newborns in Need Drive was a huge success. As a result of the generosity of our congregants, nursery school and religious school families local underprivileged moms with new babies have received clothing, bedding, toiletries, formula, diapers, and handmade blankets to help them get off to a good start. With the financial contributions we have received, we have been able to purchase portacribs so that these infants have a safe place to sleep.

This past year Newborns in Need has helped over 300 local babies. Since new mothers facing economic or health challenges continue year round, Jill Sherman will be collecting baby items throughout the year. You can call **Jill at (631) 423-8133** or email her at **jillyny25@aol.com**. The HJC Social Action Committee really appreciates your support of this worthy cause.



Congregants and students participate in Mitzvah Day.



HJC Community News



MAZAL TOV

Sarah & Jerry Saunders announce the birth of their granddaughter, Elizabeth Rose Saunders.

Meredith & Michael Mendelsohn announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Jacqueline.

NEW MEMBERS

Adam & Hayley Novick of Melville and their son, Samuel, age 2.

CONDOLENCES

Mitzi Popkin on the death of her son, Barry Popkin.

Jennifer Ingber on the death of her father, Robert David Bring.



Huntington Jewish Center Summer Adventure 2015

HJC is the place to be during the summer! Our Summer Adventure program is filled with fun for children starting at age 2 through 6 (going into 1st grade). We have an amazing dedicated staff of loving, warm teachers and counselors. We will take care of your children like they are our own. We are all CPR certified and take safety very seriously. We are here to work together with you and give your child the best summer experience possible.

The children will enjoy water play, theme days, magicians, arts & crafts, puppet shows, basic sports skills, music and so much more! All of these amazing activities take place in our beautiful, fenced in sprawling playgrounds. Our program focuses on socialization through fun and traditional summer games that we all remember.

Our beautifully air-conditioned classrooms provide great comfort and relief from the sun as well as an amazing place for rainy days so our fun never ends.

Huntington Jewish Center offers a flexible schedule and has early / late care options. Any questions please call 631-427-1089 x11

We are looking for counselors 18 and older to work for the camp. Contact us if you are interested.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Jen Bamberger
Program Director



President's Perspective

by William Wertheim



Fellow congregants,

Well, though I find it very hard to believe I am writing these words, this is my last column in the Bulletin as President of HJC. The two years have flown by, and though many days were long, time has compressed the years.

Shav lachem mashkimei kum
meacharei shevet ochlei lechem
ha-atzavim cein yitein lidido shena:

It is in vain for you that you rise early, sit up late, who eat the bread of toil; but He will surely give sustenance to those who banish sleep from themselves. (Psalm 127).

I don't know at this point whether I have risen early, sat up late, and eaten the bread of toil, or if those many nights I have banished sleep I have been given sustenance. But certainly I've both banished sleep and sat up late. I started this term thinking that I might have a small impact on our synagogue by some of the things I might do. I've learned some very, very different lessons along the way, however. Here are a few of the things I've learned:

1) This synagogue may have someone who gets up on the bimah to give announcements or speeches, but it runs on the quiet efforts, unceasing, of many congregants who neither want nor receive the recognition they deserve. They help out in the office. They help educate our children and ensure that the resources are in place to continue our schools. They clean. They prepare food for us and for those in need who have no relation to HJC other than it's a place which gives them nourishment or a roof over their heads. They visit the sick. They comfort the mourners. They give money to keep books in our library and shine our silver. They keep our doors open and our lights on and seek nothing in return, except that those doors stay open and those lights stay on. They make sure we keep compliant with the newest legal codes affecting a religious institution and that our business practices show responsible stewardship of our kehilla. They build sukkahs and gardens. And all the while I walk through the halls of our synagogue, and know that were it not for their efforts, there would be no HJC.

2) Whatever ideas I might have had bear no relation to the work that needed to be done. In large part, because the ideas other people had—on the Board of Trustees, from the Religious School or the ECC or the Sisterhood or wherever—were much better and more beneficial to HJC to try. We are blessed in our community with an unusual number of people with a variety of skills and

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Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Silverberg

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, Arlene Steinberg will be honored on **June 3, 2015** at the BQLI Awards & Dinner Gala at Temple Israel in Great Neck. Invitations were mailed to all HJC Sisterhood Paid Members - RSVP by May 13th.

Spring Rummage Sale

Thank You to all who donated and or volunteered to assist with the Spring Rummage Sale. All items not sold were donated to local organizations.

Conversion the Experience

Thank you to the women who shared their stories about the conversion experience as part of the HJC Storytelling Project.

Spring Book Discussion

Spring Book Discussion is **Thursday, May 7th at 1 PM**. The Book Selection is *The Other Half of My Soul*. The Book can be purchased at local bookstores, borrowed from your library or downloaded. *The Other Half of My Soul* by Bahia Abrams is the story of a Syrian born Muslim drawn into an Extremist Organization and an American born Syrian Jew from Brooklyn looking to break away from an Orthodox upbringing.

Upcoming Events

May 7th – Spring Book Discussion – 1PM – *The Other Half of My Soul*

May 11th – Sisterhood Board Meeting – 8 PM

June 3rd – Woman of Achievement Awards & Dinner Gala – 5:45 PM Temple Israel Great Neck

June 8th – Board Meeting

June 12th – Sisterhood/Men's Club Shabbat

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





Mitzvah Day

by Hazzan Israel Gordan



Each year in our Religious School, as is the case in many synagogues, we hold a Mitzvah Day where students learn and participate in different mitzvot. In years past, students have been involved with cleaning the desks, cleaning the kitchen, cleaning the grounds, working in our garden onsite, working in our organic garden offsite, making cards for patients and residents at Gurwin, organizing our library, and other projects. While this is a great idea in theory, it is often less well-

organized than hoped and doesn't

go as well as we'd like.

This year, I am happy to report, our Mitzvah Day was a great success and we're really excited about next year and possibilities for the future. As Religious School runs from 9am to noon on Sunday mornings (with our youngest students ending at 11am), we scheduled our Mitzvah Hour from 10:30 to 11:30am. We first had all of our students come together in the Kiddush Lounge to go over what we were going to do and what the options were. This year we had a group of students learn about our garden (since it was still cold and snowy outside), a group make lap blankets for Gurwin residents, a group clean desks in the classrooms, one group helped to clean and organize the library, while one group helped pack the Yom HaShoah candles for the Men's Club project.

In addition, students and families in our kindergarten, first, and second grade classes are part of a pilot program called HJC Family Connect. The service project for this group involved creating and packing lunch bags to donate to the hungry through our synagogue's JNN (Jewish Nutritional Network) group. After the group had finished with the lunches, we went into the Social Hall to do an ice breaker activity that involved the families and children getting to know each other to help better create the kind of warm, welcoming community that we'd all like to be part of. We had a great turnout and the feedback was extremely positive.

At the end of the hour, we all came back together to enjoy freshly baked chocolate chip cookies as representatives from each group shared what they did, how they felt about the mitzvah that they had done, and what it means to help repair the world. We also learned a song and ended the day on a very positive note. It was great to have most of the participants in one room together the whole time and people fed off the energy in the space.

Ideas for next year include scheduling our annual blood drive to take place on Mitzvah Day as a way to involve an even larger portion of our community as well as the possibility of delivering our Mishloach Manot bags to congregants as a mitzvah project for families to accomplish together. Any time where we can come together as a community and work to heal the world is not only a great thing on its own, but an excellent opportunity for all of us to live the values we want to see our children learn. If you have any ideas for future projects, please let me know!

Religious School Update

by Maxine Fisher

Religious School Administrator

On Sunday, March 22 we held Mitzvah Day (I like to call it Mitzvah hour since it was for only an hour). Religious School, Sisterhood, Men's Club, and the Social Action Committee came together and performed some very special Mitzvot. The students were split into groups; some helped Men's Club put the Yom Hashoah candles in bags for delivery, others helped Sisterhood and the Social Action Committee make lap blankets and scarves for residents of Gurwin, and another group cleaned classroom desks and helped straighten up the library. Some students also helped take apart the remaining Purim bags.

As part of a grant we received from the Jewish Education Project, we are working with the Gan, Alef, and Bet families to create a caring community by doing Mitzvot together as families. These families participated in Mitzvah Day by preparing sandwiches for the Jewish Nutritional Network (JNN), making 40 tuna sandwiches that were bagged together with fruit, carrots, and cookies. Everyone had a task to do on Mitzvah Day, and it was a very warm and productive day for all.

Save the Dates:

Friday, May 2: Gimel/ Daled Shabbaton - dinner at 6:30 PM, services at 8:00 PM

Sunday, May 3: HJC is participating in the Huntington Tulip Festival. Come by and say Hello and make a tissue flower.

Saturday, May 9: Hey/Vav Shabbaton - 10:00 AM

Saturday, May 16: Last Junior Congregation of the year

Sunday, May 24: Academic awards night on Shavuot - 8:00 PM

Sunday, May 31: Celebrate Israel Parade - Please join the HJC group.

Tuesday, June 2: Last Day of Religious School

Change in date: the Mitzvah Team Moving up ceremony has been moved to Tuesday, May 26.



A Big HIHI Thank You!

HIHI is an important community effort that HJC is proud to be a part of. Thank you to all of our 2015 volunteers for your commitment to another successful winter of feeding the homeless. We hosted seven nights this season- feeding, clothing and housing over 150 men.

This year, we were particularly happy to have many teen volunteers; religious school children and the Mitzvah team making lunches, post-Bar and Bat Mitzvah teens who cooked dinner and breakfast (at 5 am!), set-up, served, cleaned and engaged our guests with conversation. Our USY students collected snacks and clothing and helped to organize our supplies. Other teens from outside HJC helped as well, including a group from Woodbury Jewish Center, Northport High School and the Locust Valley Boys and Girls Club.

Special thanks to our crew of "regular" volunteers (you know who you are) who always step up to help, whenever needed for any task, large or small. We are also grateful to our new members who stepped up to volunteer and thank the (many more) HJC men for participating in the hard to fill evening and overnight shifts.

None of this would be possible without the help of our custodians who always set up the tables, take down the mats and clean up in the morning. Thanks also to everyone in the office, Rabbi Kurshan and Cantor Gordan for their support and encouragement.

We look forward to continuing our program next winter and are always looking for new volunteers and creative ideas to help our guests!

Ellen Steinberg and Karen Flanzenbaum



Thanks to the many hands that helped to make the HIHI 2015 Season a wonderful success!



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generous with their creativity and their time. And the ideas they have given us have yielded a huge imprint on our synagogue, from programs to organizational structure to the look and feel of our synagogue to the way we welcome each other, new members and old.

3) To the extent that I have been successful as President, it is due to the desire for success that all of you had for me. Past presidents, regular Shabbat attendees, members who go to only specific programs, people who only come to the synagogue once in a great while, all not only wished me success during my term, but gave freely of themselves for advice, counsel, and thoughtful insight about the synagogue. We have all benefited from their aid.

4) Asah lecha rav, v'kanah lecha chaver. Provide for yourself a teacher, and get yourself a friend (Pirke Avot). Our clergy and

professional staff are wise, talented, and truly have the best intent for our synagogue. I have learned much from them, and grateful beyond words for their friendship.

5) Lo eilecha kol hamlachah ligmor, v'lo atah ben horin liyivtal. It is not incumbent upon you to finish the task, but neither are you free to desist from it (Pirkei Avot). I end my term, sadly, with many, many things unfinished, try though I may to complete them. But I am confident that I am leaving the role in the most capable hands imaginable, and I will continue to try in whatever way I can to help continue HJC's future be a bright and happy one.

Billy Wertheim

HJC Receives \$10K Interfaith Family Grant

HJC is the proud recipient of a \$10,000.00 grant from the UJA – Federation of New York to help support interfaith family programming in our community.

The funds from this grant will be used, in part, as the impetus for “J on Main”, a community-based initiative geared toward reaching out to interfaith families through low-barrier programming and allowing Huntingtonians – Jewish, non-Jewish and those raising Jewish children to find the very best of what HJC has to offer within reach at the cultural centers and businesses right in the heart of Huntington Village. “This grant provides us with a really exciting opportunity to use the resources of the village of Huntington to reach out to interfaith and/or unaffiliated families in town by going to them instead of having them come to us. It should be a lot of fun to take advantage of so many of the local businesses here in town and we hope that this is just the beginning of making an impact for the synagogue and its standing within the larger community”, says Cantor Israel Gordan, Director of Synagogue Programming & Religious School Innovation.

We invite you to join us for a full calendar of exciting and family-fun programming throughout the Spring and Summer 2015! All events are free of charge so space is limited! Kindly RSVP to **Janis Solotoff at justjayj@hotmail.com or 516-316-9566.**

HJC
The Huntington Jewish Center

brings a special **interfaith initiative** to Huntington!

Join us for the following exciting events, while mingling with other interfaith families in our community.

May 5 **breakaway**
10:45-11:45am
Spin Class at Breakaway Spin Studio,
7B Green Street, Huntington

May 19 **Claytime**
6:30-9:00 pm
Wine and Painting at Claytime!
46 Gerard Street, Huntington

June 5 **Huntington Yacht Club**
4:30-7:30pm
Happy Hour at Huntington Yacht Club.
*21 and over.
95 East Shore Road, Huntington

June 12 **HJC**
6:00-8:00pm
FAMILY BBQ at the
Huntington Jewish Center,
510 Park Avenue, Huntington
*\$5.00 per person age 5 & over

Funded by **UJA Federation of New York** | Good together.®

*Events free of charge (exception of BBQ), space is limited.
Kindly RSVP to
Janis Solotoff at Justjayj@hotmail.com or 516-316-9566

Thank You

Thank you to our Hammentashen Bakers who worked tirelessly for many hours!

Jeff Moss
Rachel Moss
Donna Fleiss
Andrea Morris
Noah Morris
Felicia Messin
Eileen Front
Ellen Kahn
Ron Haber
Joni Brenner

Blood Drive - Thank you

At the recent HJC Blood Drive in memory of Ethel Tasman Fleiss forty-one volunteer donors responded to our annual appeal. Many thanks to all who took time out of their busy schedules to donate blood at HJC for the LI Blood Services. A special acknowledgement to our repeat donors. Stay healthy and enjoy spring! We look forward to seeing you in 2016.

Blood Drive Co--Chairs
Jennifer Ingber & Donna Fleiss

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and the child soon wakes up and starts crying. Only the mother's love endures in heaven as it did on earth.

I have no doubt that my trust in people and my confidence that there is a force for good and transcendence within us are products of my mother's unconditional love. I have been able to remember my mother and my indebtedness to her with the recitation of Kaddish on those days this year when we have had ten at our morning minyan. Every day this year, in that sense, has been a day to remember and honor my mother.

I hope that each of us in the HJC community will be able to express our gratitude and appreciation to our mothers on May 10. Mother's Day for me this year will be another day to say Kaddish, and to pray that my mother's love lives on in me and in heaven.

More photos from Mitzvah Day.



YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO ATTEND SERVICES AT THE
HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER
ON

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2015 ~ 6 SIVAN 5775
THE FIRST DAY OF SHAVUOT

ALL PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS OF NEWBORNS
WILL BE INCLUDED IN A SPECIAL CEREMONY
TO EXPRESS THEIR THANKFULNESS
AND
THE NEWBORNS WILL BE WELCOMED INTO THE COMMUNITY

THIS CEREMONY TO WELCOME THE NEWBORNS
WILL TAKE PLACE AT
APPROXIMATELY 11:00 AM

KINDLY RESPOND TO RENDA ROSENBLATT
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND
E-MAIL: RENDABRIT@GMAIL.COM
(Include newborn's name, parents/grandparents names,
and sibling names)

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU!

BABYSITTING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SIBLINGS, AGES 1-3,
BETWEEN 10:00 AM AND 12:00 NOON

Early Childhood News

by Ilene Brown



Our ECC Family Passover

As much as I enjoyed Purim, I must admit that Passover is my favorite holiday for many reasons. First, I love the songs the children sing which tell the story of Passover. Although, they are fairly simple songs and very age appropriate, they completely embody the essence of the story. The

children love these songs and will be singing them for a long time! A great deal of drama is utilized in the ECC to adequately depict Passover. The children act out the story and take turns characterizing Moses, Pharaoh and the Jewish slaves. Another one of the many reasons why I love Passover is getting the HJC community together. Nothing beats having Rabbi Kurshan, Cantor Gordan, Maxine Fisher and Miss Phyllis Frisher tell the story of Passover to an actively engaged audience of the children and their families. It was truly enjoyed by all. Following the Passover "service", all children and families were able to sit and eat with their classmates at the beautifully decorated tables. The teachers and children worked tirelessly to decorate their tables with Kiddush cups, centerpieces and matzoh covers. They were able to feast on some traditional Passover snacks that the children helped prepare such as charoset, no bake macaroons and matzoh. It was a wonderful experience and celebration. I truly felt like part of an amazing community, rich in tradition and warmth.



The ECC Passover celebration.



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*



LESTER and JUDY FOX

When Lester and Judy Fox moved to the Huntington area 48 years ago they had been married for three years and living in Flushing. Lester had just completed active duty as a medic in the Army and

Judy was trained as a teacher. Judy was pregnant, and they decided they wanted to raise their family in the suburbs. They were not familiar with Long Island,, so they started to look and found some model homes being built. Their inquiries about the neighborhood included whether there were "many lights" (at Christmas time); and by checking the names on nearby mailboxes they were able to determine that there were Jewish families living nearby. They moved into the same house they still live in, and found a neighborhood and neighbors whom they love. Greenlawn and the Huntington environs was a great place to raise their three daughters, Ilene, Laura and Deena.

Initially, Lester walked to the East Northport Jewish Community Center for the first Rosh Hasonnah they lived in Greenlawn . When their oldest daughter, Ilene, was five, they decided to become members at HJC in order to begin her Jewish education. Once they became members, both Lester and Judy felt it was important to become involved as members. That was 41 years ago.

Lester grew up in the Bronx in a traditional Jewish family, observing Shabbat, kashrut and attending an orthodox shul. He went to a secular high school, but attended Yeshiva University for college. Judy grew up in Queens, in a conservative Jewish family. Lester describes Judy's family as "not just religiously Jewish, but deep down Jews, who knew how to create a warm, welcoming atmosphere to everyone in the community."

Lester worked for many years as a teacher of computer programming for the Honeywell Corporation. In later years he did data processing for Grumman Data Systems and also worked as a management consultant. Judy taught first through sixth grades in the Harborfields School District. She also taught Sunday school in Queens before moving to Long Island. Both Lester and Judy are now retired but remain active in the community and with their family, that includes eight grandchildren. Their three daughters all live in NJ but the distance does not prevent the Foxes from being involved in their daughters' and grandchildren's on-going lives.

Lester has been the coordinator and teacher of a retired men's study group for over fifteen years. They study Jewish text and other

material. Lester is a natural teacher whose talents are demonstrated on a regular basis at HJC when he often delivers the d'var Torah in the rabbi's absence. Lester came to HJC being a Haftorah reader; he later learned to read Torah from Rabbi Kurshan. Lester is a frequent Torah reader on any given Shabbat. In addition to teaching in various programs that were offered at HJC (the Melton program at the JCC and the HJC literacy program), Lester has been involved in many committees at the shul including the School committee, Adult Ed committee, chair of the Ritual committee and Cemetery committee. Lester served as the first Vice-president until he had a temporary transfer to Boston for work. Lester studies Gemara through Skype with a Rabbi from Baltimore.

Judy has been just as involved in her own way at HJC. She headed the Israel Scholarship and Ramah committees for many years and remains involved with them to this day. Judy was also the editor of the HJC bulletin and served on the School committee. Their three daughters all became Bat Mitzvah at HJC and were very active in the youth group. The Foxes view their lives at HJC as a family and community that is intertwined. This was evident throughout their daughters' childhoods and to this day.

The Fox family participated on the first HJC community trip to Israel that Rabbi Kurshan organized in 1989. They have since made other trips to Israel but they refer to that first trip as a magical community experience that included many friends and neighbors from HJC. Lester and Judy have befriended many people of different backgrounds both at HJC and in their immediate neighborhood. On their local street they count several non-Jewish families as part of their community and are proud of these enduring relationships as well as their deep connections to people within the HJC community.

Lester and Judy continue to find meaning in their lives through their involvement in learning and through their relationships with others, be it family or friends. They are fiercely proud, and deservedly so, of the legacy they have created in instilling a deep Jewish connection and meaning in the lives of their daughters and their families. Their daughters and their families are involved in their respective synagogues and their daughters and grandchildren all attended (or attend) Camp Ramah.

The Fox home is filled with books; and there is an inviting and warm feeling that exudes love of learning and intellectual stimulation. To the good fortune of the HJC community this is extended beyond their home and into the shul - and has been for all the years that Lester and Judy have been members.

Article compiled by Nancy Cooper, Lester Fox, and Judy Fox

Donations

צדקה

GENERAL FUND

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Murray Stoller, father of Laurie Birzon.
Elaine Epstein in memory of Irving Gleicher at yahrzeit.
Marvin Marsh in memory of Burt Marsh at yahrzeit.
Joan & Nathan Newman in memory of Anna Newman at yahrzeit.
Joan & Nathan Newman in memory of Simon Newman at yahrzeit.
Larry Tannenbaum in memory of Belle Tannenbaum at yahrzeit.
Randi & Alan Schuller in memory of in memory of Rosalyn H. Schwartz, mother of Arnold Schwartz.
Randi & Alan Schuller in memory of Murray Stoller, father of Laurie Birzon.
Mitchell Reiver in memory of Paula Reiver at yahrzeit.
Elaine Marsh in memory of Burt Marsh at yahrzeit.
Leslie & Jed Hantverk in memory of Murray Stoller, father of Laurie Birzon.
Ethel Schwartz Bock in memory of Blima Schwartz at yahrzeit.
Eileen & Ed Coblens in memory of Beverly Schpoont, wife of Sy Schpoont.
Barbara & Shelley Magaliff in memory of Beverly Schpoont, wife of Sy Schpoont.
Andrea Shafit Feltham in memory of Gertrude Shafit at yahrzeit.
Andrea Shafit Feltham in memory of Arthur Shafit at yahrzeit.
Roberta Marsh in memory of Daniel Marsh at yahrzeit.
Roberta Marsh in memory of Kate Jacobs at yahrzeit.
Albert Kramer in memory of Louis Kramer at yahrzeit.
Joanne & Peter Cohn in honor of the birth of Elizabeth Rose Saunders, granddaughter of Sarah & Jerry Saunders.
Nathan Weiss in memory of Helen Weiss at yahrzeit.
Phil & Dale Mintz in memory of Lee Mintz at yahrzeit.
Ralph Kornblatt in memory of Mildred Kornblatt at yahrzeit.
Shelley & Marc Weinberg in memory of Milton Weinberg at yahrzeit.
Michael Buchholtz in memory of Sidney Buchholtz at yahrzeit.
Miriam & Ron Goldberg in memory of Ann Benjamin Goldberg at yahrzeit.
Arthur Perler in memory of Barnett Perler at yahrzeit.
Carol & Marty Cohen in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Abe Baker-Butler, grandson of Carol & Howard Baker.
Ellen & Newt Meiselman in memory of Ben Meiselman at yahrzeit.
Cantor Israel Gordan & Abigail Uhrman in honor of Rabbi Neil Kurshan being named the HJC Men's Club Man of the Year.
Jay Steinberg in memory of Ruth Steinberg at yahrzeit.
Patricia Schoeffler in memory of Lilian Cochrane at yahrzeit.
Renda & Ken Rosenblatt in memory of Milton Rosenblatt at yahrzeit.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Anita Palumbo at yahrzeit.
Carol & Marshall Adelstein in memory of Frieda Moak at yahrzeit.

Ellen Teebor in memory of Sam Fersten at yahrzeit.
Marvin Rosenthal in memory of Clair Rosenthal at yahrzeit.
Rosalind Shaffer in memory of Benny Shaffer at yahrzeit.
Loron Simon in memory of Charles Simon at yahrzeit.
Diane & Steven Block in memory of Rosel Block at yahrzeit.
Barry Chase in memory of Tevah Chaikin at yahrzeit.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Amira Garbus in memory of Albert Garbus at yahrzeit.

ARK & PULPIT FUND

Joan Blank in memory of Louis Galowitz at yahrzeit.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Syd & Mike Schlesinger in honor of the birth of Elizabeth Rose Saunders, granddaughter of Sarah & Jerry Saunders.
Syd & Mike Schlesinger in memory of Mollie Schlesinger at yahrzeit.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Gwen Goldstein in memory of Philip Marcus at yahrzeit.
Gwen Goldstein in memory of Sadie Paternostro at yahrzeit.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Murray Stoller, father of Laurie Birzon.
Vicki & Tom Rosen wishing a speedy recovery to Joe Koreen.
Susan Rubin wishing a speedy recovery to Selma Greenstein.
Joan Blank with thanks and appreciation to Tom & Vicki Rosen.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judith & Lester Fox in honor of Rabbi Neil Kurshan being named the HJC Men's Club Man of the Year.
Judith & Lester Fox in honor of Yair Koas being named the HJC Men's Club Youth of the Year.
Judith & Lester Fox in memory of the mother of Rebecca Kaplan.

DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Jennifer & Scott Ingber in memory of Arthur Jochnowitz, father of Hazel Dotan.
Jennifer & Scott Ingber in memory of Murray Stoller, father of Laurie Birzon.
Jennifer & Scott Ingber in honor of the birth of Elizabeth Rose Saunders, granddaughter of Sarah & Jerry Saunders.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Yolanda Barfus in memory of Jerome Barfus at yahrzeit.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Marlene & Leonard Hummel in memory of Murray Stoller, father of Laurie Birzon.

Donations

צדקה

Lisa Hadar in memory of Marian Skeist at yahrzeit.

Lisa Hadar in memory of Merrill Skeist at yahrzeit.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Eileen & Harvey Berger in memory of Irving Rothenberg at yahrzeit.

Eileen & Harvey Berger in memory of Dolores Berger at yahrzeit.

Eileen & Harvey Berger in memory of Irving Berger at yahrzeit.

Jill & Arnie Sherman in memory of Jeanne Sherman at yahrzeit.

Amira Garbus in memory of Albert Garbus at yahrzeit.

Joan Blank in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Abe Baker-Butler, grandson of Carol & Howard Baker.

Susan & David Lefkowitz in memory of Milfred Goldstein at yahrzeit.

Patricia & Dan Schoeffler in memory of Murray Stoller, father of Laurie Birzon.

Patricia & Dan Schoeffler in memory of Arthur Jochnowitz, father of Hazel Dotan.

HJC Annual Blood Drive

HJC's Annual Blood Drive, named in memory of Ethel Tasman Fleiss, was held this year on March 24. The drive, coordinated by Donna Fleiss and Jennifer Ingber, collected over 32 pints of blood with each donation helping to save up to 3 lives!

Ethel Tasman Fleiss was a dedicated and hardworking volunteer for NY Blood Services as a coordinator of blood drive volunteers on Long Island for many years before becoming a very enthusiastic chairperson for HJC's annual blood drive. She spent many hours arranging for members to donate at our annual blood drive and would have been very proud to know the drive is still carried on today and is dedicated in her memory.



Ethel Fleiss' sons, Bruce and Ed, giving blood at the annual Blood Drive, in honor of their mother.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Each year at Selichot, we dedicate plaques in memory of our departed loved ones. This year, Selichot falls on Saturday evening, September 5th. If you are interested in purchasing a plaque, orders are now being taken in the synagogue office.

The plaques are \$450 and the deadline to order is June 4th.

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



Celebrate Israel Parade

Sunday, May 31, 2015

11am – 4pm 5th Ave NYC

(from 57th to 74th Streets)

For more information visit

www.celebrateisraelny.org

Sunday, June 7, 2015

4pm – 8:30pm

Eisenhower Park

(Harry Chapin Lakeside Theater)



FREE Concert

Bounce House & Carnival Games

Community Organization Fair & Vendors

Israeli Dancing & Activities Led by Tzofim (Israeli Scouts)

PJ Library & Sifriyat P'jama Activities

Magen David Adom Ambulance will be donated to Israel

Holy Rollers Kosher Cart and Green Olive (available for purchase)

and much more

For more information visit www.jcrcli.org

HAVE FUN & SHOW SUPPORT OF ISRAEL **with countless others in NYC and at Eisenhower Park**

1. Demonstrate your support with your legs!

Come and march in the **CELEBRATE ISRAEL PARADE** or join the spectators to cheer the marchers on. Join thousands and thousands of others to demonstrate to the world our love and support of Israel. It's a great experience for all ages to be amongst so many in the heart of Manhattan all in support of Israel. It's on **Sunday, May 31, 2015** in NYC from **11:00am-4:00pm on 5th Avenue** from 54th - 74th Streets. For more info, www.celebrateisraelny.org

2. Demonstrate your support and come for the music, the games, the shopping, the fun, the food and the dancing!

Do you like Festivals that are free and fun?

Do you like Israeli music?

Shopping for Israeli products, jewelry, crafts, etc?

Do your children love a Bounce House? Carnival games?

Are you interested in community organizing opportunities?

Do you enjoy Israeli dancing?

How about Israeli food?

If you answered YES to any of these, bring your fiends and family and come celebrate Israel at the Celebrate Israel Festival on **Sunday June 7, 2015 from 4:00-8:30pm. It's at Harry Chapin Lakeside Theater at Eisenhower Park**, and all of it is free except the shopping and food. For more info: www.jcrcli.org

HJC Bulletin May 2015

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Congregants and students participate in Mitzvah day!

