



HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION



by Rabbi Kurshan

For a Rainy Day

I am a saver by nature. I still have my sixth grade composition papers. When I got married, I had already saved toward a down payment on a house, and as a consequence had deferred a few vacation trips. Over the years I have accumulated thousands of frequent flyer miles. I have hundreds of files with ideas for future sermons and Divrei Torah.

I am reminded of a debate between Hillel and Shammai about how to live the good life. If Shammai found a choice calf on Monday he would not eat it but would set it aside for Shabbat. If he found a choicer calf on Tuesday, he would set that one aside. Hillel, on the other hand, would eat each morsel of food as it came to him never setting it aside for the future, but enjoying it in the moment.

Although I am temperamentally more akin to Shammai, the rabbis side with Hillel. They quote from Psalms: "This is

the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad." (118:24) In other words, this day—today—is the only day we have.

I found myself thinking about this debate between Hillel and Shammai as I prepared for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur this year. I keep thematic files for the Yamim Noraim on topics such as Teshuva, forgiveness, gratitude, kindness, happiness/despair, community/aloneness, aging etc. Although I have given one hundred RH and YK sermons at the Huntington Jewish Center, I have noticed they all revolve around ten or twelve themes. Thus when I find an interesting story or text during the year that pertains to one of these themes, I tuck it in the appropriate file.

Over the years I have accumulated hundreds of texts and stories. Some I used in past years, but often I have said to myself, "Let me save this for a better time. In the future I will have the perfect occasion to tell this story or teach this text."

Looking back I should have been guided more by a strange law in the Torah. We are told that when the Jews wandered in the desert, they were provided by God with manna, but there was one condition attached to God's gift. The manna could not be stored overnight. Some of the people did not heed Moses' instructions and left over the manna until the morning. The Torah is blunt about what happened: "Whatever they left over became infested with maggots and it stank."

This year as I prepared for the holidays I was confronted by overstuffed files from years of saving, but only one last

set of holidays at HJC to use what I had accumulated. Fortunately I fared a little better than the Jews in the wilderness who saved their manna. I pulled out as much as I could from my files and used it, but some of what I had saved was dated.

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A Big Thank You!



Huntington Jewish Center's Social Action Committee Thanks Chip'n Dipped

Huntington Jewish Center's Social Action Committee would like to give our heartfelt thanks to **Chip'n Dipped** Cookies and Chocolate. They have been a wonderful partner in our quest to feed the homeless individuals in our area. Each week they generously donate their delicious kosher cookies and brownies to the Jewish Nutritional Network.

Please support **Chip'n Dipped** Cookies and Chocolate whenever you want an amazing cookie, brownie or artisan chocolate. They also specialize in gift baskets large or small customized for any any occasion including Chanukah, birthdays, get well, new baby, condolence/shiva as well as corporate gifts. They are located in the heart of Huntington Village at **342 New York Avenue** just a few doors south of Main Street. Please tell them that HJC sent you.



Adult Education presents ~

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES:



ROMANCE IN JEWISH FILMS

Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm in the Social Hall

Discussion Leader: Rabbi Neil Kurshan

NOV. 7—CROSSING DELANCEY

DEC. 5—THE APARTMENT

JAN. 9—CASABLANCA

In this final film series with Rabbi Kurshan, we will watch three beautiful and critically acclaimed successful films that focus on the theme of romance as it intersects with Jewish values and traditions.

"Crossing Delancey" is the story of a beautiful, intelligent woman in her thirties living on the Upper West Side and struggling with how the prospect of marriage will compromise her independence.

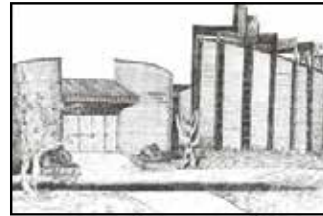
"The Apartment", starring Jack Lemmon, tells the story of a go-getting office worker who lends his apartment to his philandering superiors, but who then has second thoughts about his actions.

"Casablanca", (Rabbi Kurshan's favorite movie) starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman is one of the most beloved American films and is a top notch thriller and wartime romance about a world-weary freedom fighter in love with a woman married to another man.

Refreshments will be served

BYOKB (Bring Your Own Kosher Bottle)

Each movie will be followed by a discussion with Rabbi Kurshan



Neil Kurshan, Rabbi
423-5355

Allison Reiver
President
427-1089

Israel Gordan, Hazzan,
Director, Synagogue Programming and
Religious School Innovation
427-1089, ext. 22

Maxine Fisher
Religious School Director
427-1157 ext. 14

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Director, Early Childhood Center
425-1089, ext 15

Barbara Axmacher
Executive Director
427-1089, ext 23

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5776
2015

November

cheshvan
kislev

KAR-BEN

PUBLISHING

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 19 cheshvan <i>SH Rummage Sale</i> <i>RS / USY / Kadima</i> <i>JNN</i>	2 20 cheshvan <i>SH Rummage Sale</i>	3 21 cheshvan ECC Closed Prof Development Day RS Wise Aging 7:30pm ELECTION DAY	4 22 cheshvan HHH Orientation Meeting 7:30 pm	5 23 cheshvan <i>SH Book Discussion 2pm</i> <i>Dilemma's of Faith II 8pm</i>	6 24 cheshvan <i>Minyan Breakfast 8pm</i>	7 25 cheshvan <i>Alex Bram Bar Mitzvah 9:30am</i> <i>Jr Congregation 10:30am</i> <i>Rabbi Movie Night 7:30pm</i> <i>Chaye Sarah</i>
8 26 cheshvan <i>RS / USY / Kadima</i> <i>RS</i> <i>JNN</i>	9 27 cheshvan <i>Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Tour - 4 pm</i> <i>EC Meeting 7:30pm</i>	10 28 cheshvan <i>RS / Chaverim</i> <i>Wise Aging 7:30pm</i>	11 29 cheshvan ECC Closed Staff Development VETERANS DAY CANADIAN REMEMBRANCE DAY	12 30 cheshvan <i>SH Growing Up Jewish 8pm</i>	13 1 kislev <i>RS K , 1 , 2 Dinner</i> ROSH CHODESH	14 2 kislev <i>Eric Russo Bar Mitzvah 9:30am</i> <i>Toldot</i>
15 3 kislev <i>Mens Club Meeting 9:30am</i> <i>Hey Kashrut/Vav Workshop #1</i> <i>Ridotto 4pm</i> <i>JNN</i>	16 4 kislev <i>Board Meeting 8pm</i>	17 5 kislev <i>RS</i> <i>Wise Aging 7:30pm</i> <i>Dilemma's of Faith II 8pm</i>	18 6 kislev <i>Social Action Meeting 2pm</i>	19 7 kislev <i>Professional Staff Meeting 12:45pm</i> <i>Comedy Night! 8pm</i>	20 8 kislev <i>ECC Service / Dinner 5pm</i>	21 9 kislev <i>Nicholas Aronow Bar Mitzvah 9:30am</i> <i>Jr Congregation 10:30am</i> <i>Vayetze</i>
22 10 kislev <i>RS Board Meeting 9:15am</i> <i>RS</i> <i>Community Thanksgiving Service</i> <i>JNN</i>	23 11 kislev <i>SH Board Meeting 8pm</i>	24 12 kislev <i>RS / Chaverim</i>	25 13 kislev	26 14 kislev <i>Main Office Closed</i> <i>ECC Closed</i> THANKSGIVING DAY	27 15 kislev <i>Main Office Closed</i> <i>ECC Closed</i>	28 16 kislev <i>Vayishlach</i>
29 17 kislev <i>RS Closed</i> <i>JNN</i>	30 18 kislev					



Save the Date: The Rabbi Neil Kurshan Legacy Celebration

5746 -5776

1985-2016

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE VERY SPECIAL EVENTS
AS WE PREPARE TO BID FAREWELL TO RABBI KURSHAN

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 19: PANEL DISCUSSION - 8:00 PM
The American Synagogue: Past, Present, and Future

SATURDAY EVENING, JUNE 11: SHAVUOT TIKKUN - 9:30 PM
Rabbi Kurshan will teach his favorite Jewish texts.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 18: SHABBAT SERVICES & CELEBRATORY
KIDDUSH LUNCHEON - 9:30 AM

SUNDAY EVENING, JUNE 19: FAREWELL DESSERT RECEPTION - 7:00 PM

*God has told you what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do justice
and to love goodness; And to walk modestly with your God. ~ Micah 6:8*



ALL EVENTS WILL BE HELD AT
THE HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

510 PARK AVENUE HUNTINGTON NEW YORK 11743
631-427-1089 / WWW.HJCN.Y.ORG

View from the Director's Chair

by Barbara Axmacher

Rabbi: con't from page 1



The Melting Pot

It was the perfect fall day in Heckscher Park this past Columbus Day weekend to take part in the Long Island Fall Festival. HJC was proudly represented, complete with balloons, bracelets and our (soon to be iconic!) Thanksgiving Tree. Of the thousands who visited the park that day, several hundred

cheerfully stopped by our booth to say hello and to put forward, in their own words, what they are thankful for.

Try as I might, I think the spirit of the day could really be best defined through the magical lens of time-lapsed photography - where hours can dramatically turn into mere seconds, powerfully combining images to illustrate what the naked eye often cannot recognize.

For me, the most striking and poignant revelation of the day was that no matter who came to our booth whether old or young, male or female, white or black, Jewish or any other religion, EVERYONE in the MELTING POT was thankful for the same things. FAMILY. HEALTH. LOVE. PEACE. JOY. GOD.

I characterize the "melting pot" as a spectrum of nationalities, ethnicities and cultures fusing together to form a harmonious whole and that is exactly how I came upon the title of our upcoming fundraiser - "The Melting Pot Comedy Hour." In selecting the first fundraising event I was to host as the new Executive Director, I wanted something encompassing, an event that had the potential to bring together all kinds of people for one express purpose - to celebrate our similarities and poke fun at our differences.

So, although the comedy hour theme was firmly cemented before our foray in the park, I was thoroughly inspired to see the poetry of thankfulness in full motion that day. It reinforced the belief that however different we can be, we are still fundamentally the same. With that in mind, if you haven't given thought to joining us on Thursday evening, November 19th for the comedy hour, I hope you will give pause and consider it now. We have a sensational line-up of standout, stand-up comedians; an Italian, an Irishman, a black man and of course, a mensch. Think of it as a slice of life with no calories, a guilt-free, feel-good get together. We will have a cash bar, some nosh and great raffle prizes! Remember, laugh and the whole world laughs with you. Stay home and you'll be all alone.

Some of what I had saved, I no longer liked because I had changed. And some of what I had saved, I could not use simply because I had saved too much.

I thought back to those sixth grade composition papers sitting in my drawer that I have not looked at for more than forty years. The money I had saved for the down payment on a house never got spent for that purpose since I ended up living in a parsonage. (At least I was able to use those savings for Day School tuition.) And the frequent flyer miles that I have accumulated have been devalued multiple times.

Many years ago the columnist, Erma Bombeck, wrote a column about the risks of putting aside what we have today for an unknowable future.

"I come from a family of savers who were sired by poverty, who were raised in the Depression... Through the years I have seen a fair number of my family who have died leaving candles that were never lit, appliances that they never took out of the box, wines that were saved for 'something special'...

It gets to be habit forming. After a while you have dreams that you hide away for the day when you will have time to make them come true. You have compliments to say to people that you put aside until the 'right moment' comes...

I have learned that silverware tarnishes when it isn't used. Perfume turns to alcohol and never smells as sweet as when it is used. Candles melt in the attic over the summer. Plastic left on lampshades to keep off the dust makes them moldy...

I have a dream that when I am asked to give an accounting of my life before the Higher Court, it will go like this: They will say 'So empty your pockets, please. What have you left of your life? Any dreams that were unfulfilled? Any used talents that you were given when you were born that you still have left? Any unsaid compliments or bits of love that you did not spread around?'

And I will answer, 'I've nothing to return. I spent everything that You gave me. I am as naked as the day I was born.'

So this year I am trying to empty out my files. If I have a good story, I am telling it. If I have a good text, I am teaching it. I am working hard to spend everything I have.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are members of our congregation who are home-bound. They would appreciate brief visits and perhaps a ride to doctor appointments.

Contact Social Action Co-chairs Marilyn Klein (271-8461) or Janet Kushnick (271-8803) for more information.

HJC Community News



NEW MEMBERS

Mikhail & Ella Rosenbloom of Centerport and their children: Daniela, age 5 ½ & Leon, age 2 ½

CONDOLENCES

Rosalind Wertheim on the death of her father, Mark Carter



Bar Mitzvahs November



Nicholas Campbell Aronow **Son of Holly and Bruce Aronow**

Nicholas is an 8th grade high honor roll student at Cold Spring Harbor Junior High School. He is a compassionate and caring young man with a sharp wit and unbridled creativity that never ceases to amuse and delight his family and friends. An outstanding musician, he enjoys playing piano and saxophone and is in the Jazz Ensemble at school. Nicholas also plays on both the Junior High soccer and tennis teams. In addition to family and friends, he also loves spending time with his dogs, Gracie and Sally. Some of his favorite activities are skiing, sailing and spending time at the beach. His parents and brother Alexander are extremely proud of him and are looking forward to his big day!



Alex Bram **Son of Sheri and Ken Bram**

Alex is an 8th grade honor roll student at the Long Island School for the Gifted. Alex is an incredibly kind and caring person who loves to help others. He can be found volunteering with the younger students in the Religious School every Sunday morning – a highlight of his week. He is always looking for ways, large and small, to help his friends and family. While he has many interests, Alex is very passionate about sports and knows enough statistics, interesting facts and obscure rules to challenge the most ardent sports fan. He also has a wonderful sense of humor, and an insatiable love of learning and truly enjoys math, science, literature and history. He loves playing Little League, working with his friends on a robotics team, as well as competing with his Battle of the Books team. Preparing for his Bar Mitzvah has been a truly rewarding experience for him. Mom, Dad, and Rachel are incredibly proud of all that he has accomplished.



Eric Rousso **Son of Lisa and Doug Rousso**

Eric attends William T Rogers Middle School in Kings Park. He is an avid reader, video game player, world traveller, and honor student. He enjoys participating in the Jr. Mock Trial Club and hopes to someday attend Harvard or Yale Law School and be an attorney. His parents, Doug and Lisa, are very proud of him, as are his twin brothers, Ethan and Alex.

President's Perspective

by Allison Reiver



It literally takes a small village to ensure that our High Holiday services run smoothly and are meaningful to each and every one of us, and this year was no exception. Thank you first and foremost to Rabbi Kurshan and Cantor Gordan for engaging our spirit and beautifully guiding us through the holidays. If you had a chance to stop by the office during the last month, you saw our efficient office

staff of Barbara Axmacher, Debbie Rosenkrantz, Irma Mile, Diane Gallagher, and Risa Noah hard at work to ensure that things ran smoothly. Danny Carillo-Masa, Victor Salinas, Alex Salinas, our dedicated custodial staff, worked long hours to spruce up our building. Our Executive Committee and Board of Trustees once again devoted their time and energy to greet us and serve as ambassadors to our community. Below you will see the many different jobs that are involved in the holidays. Kol Hakavod to our committed volunteers and office staff for making this a wonderful Yamim Tovim for HJC.

Arranging the High Holiday Honors: the Joels (Wirchin and Kuppersmith)

Leading/participating in services: Rabbi Kurshan, Cantor Gordan, Joel Kuppersmith, Lester Fox, Paul Greenstein, Jack Rubin, Jay Steinberg, Jay Weiss, Mark Zimmerman

Leading the Kol Nidre Appeal: Amal and Alon Kapen

Shofar Blowing: Matt Raskin

Preparing the Book of Remembrance: Debbie Rosenkrantz

Organizing Babysitting: sponsored by Sisterhood, coordinated by Janet Kushnick

Preparing Apples & Honey for the children: Sisterhood/Felicia Messing

Silver-polishing: Janet Kushnick, Marilyn Klein, Felicia Messing, Sarah Saunders, Tyna Strenger

Changing the Torah Covers and Ark curtain: Janet and Mark Zimmerman

Overseeing the audio system: Bruce Fleiss

Arranging greeters: Maxine Fisher

Arranging participation of Martyrology readers: Donna Fleiss, Miriam Wirchin

Sponsoring flowers on the Bimah: Sisterhood, Judy Leopold

Planning and coordinating the Eva Hoffman Kramer

Selichot Lecture: Jennifer Ingber, Al Kra-mer

Organizing the memorial plaques: Paul Greenstein

Preparing the Kol Nidre Board: Karann Pashkin

Setting up Break Fast: Sylvia Brass

Preparing the Congregational New Year's Card: Andrea Morris



Sisterhood News

by Donna Fleiss & Miriam Wirchin

MEMBERSHIP

It's not too late to send in your Sisterhood membership dues!

\$45 for regular membership/\$30 for senior membership

New members to HJC receive a complimentary

Sisterhood membership for their first year.

Many thanks to Vicki Rosen and the programming committee for a delightful, entertaining and delicious evening!

GET INVOLVED!

We always need volunteers to staff events, fundraisers, assist in the kitchen for Shabbat Kiddushes, Religious School festivals, bake hamantashen or fill Purim baskets.

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Thank you to all who donated lightly used clothes or household items and who assisted with the set-up and sale. Any items not purchased were donated to local organizations. A special thank you goes to Marlene Hummel, our Rummage Sale chairperson.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE AND TORAH FUND

This year's theme for Women's League is *nat'ah karem* ("she plants a vineyard"), and the Torah Fund pin features grapes and a grape leaf surrounded by the words *nat'ah karem* in Hebrew. 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).

Contact Evelyn Abraham or Ethel Sachs to make a donation.

SUPPORT HJC SISTERHOOD WITH YOUR PURCHASE OF THANKSGIVING PIES!

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 5th - Book Discussion @ 1pm

In the Unlikely Event by Judy Blume

November 12th - Growing Up Jewish in Foreign Lands

November 23rd - Sisterhood Board Meeting

December 6th - Hanukkah Happening

December 10th - Craft Night: Polymer Clay Mezuzah

Please remember the Sisterhood Judaica Shop for all your gift and holiday needs.

Sisterhood Contacts:

Donna Fleiss - donna.fleiss@gmail.com

Miriam Wirchin - mirm1225@aol.com



THANKSGIVING PIE SALE

Please Support the HJC Sisterhood by buying pies for your Thanksgiving dinner or to bring to family and friends. Fruit and Pumpkin Pies will be available for sale and pick up at HJC. The pies are baked at a small family owned bakery that is Kosher Pareve, peanut, dairy and lactose free. 8 and 10 inch pies will be sold. Order forms are available in the HJC Office. If you have questions, please contact **Evelyn Abraham or Eileen Berger**.

HELP WANTED!

HAMANTASHEN MANAGER/ORGANIZER

Looking for someone to organize and schedule
baking of hamantashen for Purim 5776/2016

Make your own hours!

Many volunteers to assist!

If interested, please contact:

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

Miriam Wirchin - mirm1225@aol.com/631-495-3452

Leading the Healing Service: Dafna Soltes Stein
Leading Children's services: Jessica Winkler (Rosh Hashanah), Phyllis Frischer (Yom Kippur);
Leading Junior Congregation: Leah Winkler (Rosh Hashanah), Matthew Wertheim (Yom Kippur)
Helping with mailings: Charlotte Rosen, Ellen Kahn, Rene Levy, Evelyn Silverberg
Preparing Membership packets: Elaine Kleinmann, Tracy Kaplowitz
Building the Sukkah: Men's Club
Decorating the Sukkah: Sisterhood, coordinated by Sarah Saunders
Preparing the HJC Program Guide: Barbara Axmacher
Preparing the Tzror Ha-Chayim Memorial Booklets: Mark and Janet Zimmerman
Organizing the Simchat Torah luncheon: Sylvia Brass, Tyna Strenger, Maxine Fisher

Women's League Torah Fund

The mission of Torah Fund is to provide support and funding for our future Conservative Rabbis, Cantors, Educators and Administrators for Day and Synagogue Schools, Social Workers, Scholars, Professional and Lay Leaders and Researchers. Our donations make it possible for students to study at the Jewish Theological Seminary, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Schechter Institutes of Judaic Studies and Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano.

Your Torah Fund Contribution strengthens and perpetuates Conservative/Masorti Judaism throughout the world. Please be a sponsor and no need to fulfill your obligations at once.

Donations start at \$18. If you donate \$180 you will receive the Torah Fund Pin for 5776 in recognition of your generous support.

This year's pin is designed by Eytan Brandes and features grapes and a grape leaf surrounded by the words Nat'ah Karem (She plants a vineyard) in Hebrew.

Please contact Evelyn Abraham or Ethel Sachs for more information and to make your donation.



Fall Book Discussion

In the Unlikely Event by Judy Blume

Please join us on **Thursday November 5th at 1 PM** for the Sisterhood Fall Book Discussion.

Judy Blume, known for her young adult books, has written an adult novel about unlikely events. The story is told by a chorus of voices and is based on a true story that happened in Elizabeth, New Jersey during the winter of 1951-1952. Blume says "It's about how unlikely events can happen to us at any time and how they change our lives and how, when even tragedy strikes, we go on. Because as my father used to say all the time, 'Life goes on. Life is for the living. You have to live every day.'"

Please RSVP by 10/29 to Evelyn Abraham 631 424-6922.



The Miracle of Giving and Receiving

by Hazzan Israel Gordan



This year I will not be in Huntington for Halloween weekend as I will be in Dallas, Texas with my family for my niece's Bat Mitzvah. My wife's sister and her family moved there over a year ago so she could become the Head of School at Akiba Academy of Dallas. While her first child celebrated becoming a Bat Mitzvah in Silver Spring, Maryland, they are now part of the community in Dallas and we are excited to celebrate with them. It's always amazing when another family member

celebrates a milestone life-cycle event.

With a Bat Mitzvah (or almost any celebration), thoughts often turn to gifts and what is appropriate to get the celebrant. As we are taught, giving can be even more rewarding than receiving, but I've often found that difficult to fully appreciate. For physical gifts, it is way more fun to receive than to give. Who doesn't like clothing, books, jewelry, or gift cards? And who doesn't like getting something that you've wanted without paying for it?

That being said, however, things come and go, and we all know our true happiness never comes from physical objects, but from people, amazing times spent together, and beautiful memories created with family, friends, and even experiences with strangers. This got me thinking about the gifts of people.

While my sister-in-law's oldest child is biological, the bat mitzvah girl and her younger brother are adopted. What an amazing gift for their family to receive these blessings! Far more exciting and fulfilling than any item could ever be! And what a miracle adoption is for all parties involved, from the mother who was not able to raise her own baby, to the child who is given a new chance, to the family who receives the child. While I certainly know it is never simple or straightforward and there can be difficult situations, adoption has touched many people in wonderful ways, including in our own community. The late founder of Wendy's, Dave Thomas, was not only adopted himself, but adopted several children and was a big supporter and proponent of adoption.

Another gift of life that I was recently able to give was platelets. Every year, our synagogue sponsors a blood drive and it is a fantastic opportunity for all who are able to give blood to those in need. While a standard blood donation can take a half hour or so, donating platelets is a longer process because they have to take your blood out, take the platelets out of your blood, and then return your blood back to you (without the platelets). I was able to schedule an appointment right before Yom Kippur at the New York Blood Center in Melville. A short while after donating the platelets I received a letter in the mail notifying me that my platelets were used to help a patient at NY-Presbyterian Hospital.

While I will never know who received my platelets, I certainly have the satisfaction of knowing that giving is far superior to receiving in this case. L'chaim – To life!

Religious School Update

by Maxine Fisher

Religious School Administrator

It always amazes me that you can go away for one night and feel like you were gone for a week. This past weekend, Rob and I went upstate hoping to see the fall foliage, but it really was not prime yet. We toured Bethel Woods Cultural Center on the site of the Woodstock music festival. The museum was done very well. The grounds there are so beautiful and tranquil. You can just sit there for hours just taking in G-d's creations.

We also walked the "Walkway Over the Hudson" (an old train trestle converted to a walking bridge). Again, we had the most glorious weather and scenery.

We ended our trip with a tour of West Point. We went to two of six chapels (yes, I asked if there was a Jewish Chapel and there is), toured the grounds, which were so tranquil and beautiful and we went to the cemetery. The first graves that were pointed out to us were those of David "Mickey" Marcus and his wife. Mickey Marcus was a US Army Colonel retired who assisted Haganah fighting for Israel's Independence. He was, unfortunately, killed by friendly fire. There is a good movie about him starring Kirk Douglas called "Cast a Giant Shadow".

So the point of this article? In Religious School, the children often ask "if G-d made so many miracles back in Mose's time, why are there no miracles now?" I always answer them by (if possible) taking them outside and showing them the trees, grass, birds etc. These are G-d's miracles. Take your family and show them G-d's miracles.

Upcoming events:

Tuesday, November 2nd Hebrew Chug

Saturday, November 7th Junior Congregation

Tuesday, November 10th Chaverim

Sunday, November 15th Vav workshop #1 with Rabbi Kurshan

Sunday, November 15th Hey Kosher Family Workshop

Tuesday, November 17th Hebrew Chug

Saturday, November 21st Junior Congregation

Sunday, November 22nd Mitzvah Team Lone Soldier program (rescheduled)

Tuesday, November 24th Chaverim

No school Sunday, November 29th



Congregants gather for Tashlich.



David Marcus' grave from Maxine's trip to West Point.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Huntington Jewish Center invites you to our

Second Annual Progressive Dinner*



**SATURDAY EVENING,
DECEMBER 19 AT 7:00 PM**

Do you remember the lovely evening last year with friends – old and new? Oh, you missed it – well don't miss it again – great food, wonderful company, entertainment, raffles and more....

Details coming soon!

Cost: \$36 per person

We hope you will participate in this excellent & fun-filled fundraiser.

You won't be sorry!

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR HOST CHEFS FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE DINNER**

If you wish to host a dinner (you do not have to have a kosher home since dinner will be fish, dairy or vegetarian), please contact:

Susi Susskind 631.424.5360 or hssusski@optonline.net

*A PROGRESSIVE DINNER is an occasion where you have cocktails & dinner at your host's home. Please note: You do not have to be invited by a host - Just sign up and you will be placed.

After dinner, there will be sumptuous desserts and surprises (at 9:30 pm) at the home of Ken & Risa Gold.

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

Early Childhood News

by Ilene Brown



The Teacher's Lasting Impression

"Most of us end up with no more than five or six people who remember us. Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives."

Andy Rooney

My mother was a New York City school teacher and Assistant Principal for 40 plus years. She taught the 4th and 6th grade and then became an Assistant Principal in the same school. Recently,

she received a call from one of her students from the class of 1983. It seemed that this student and classmates wanted to throw a party in my mother's honor. It was truly touching and amazing that these, now adults, still remembered my mother, their teacher, from more than 30 years ago and the impression she had on their lives.

One might argue that these, then, 6th grade students remembered her and their other teachers because they were older. Who would ever remember a preschool teacher?? At our ECC staff meeting I spoke of my mother and Yvonne Cohen. I still remember when Yvonne received the Grinspoon Award and was honored by the temple, I was in awe of the amount of students who returned to speak about Yvonne, who they had when they were 4 years old. They shared such vivid memories about Yvonne and how she impacted their lives. Some of her students were in their 20s and still remembered and spoke of Yvonne as their most revered educator. It is clear that even in the preschool years, teachers play a vital and long lasting role in a child's life. The same day, following my staff meeting, a grandmother and temple member, came to see me about enrolling her grandson in our program. She told me that both of her daughters had Yvonne as their teacher and how lucky and blessed they were to have had Yvonne in their lives. One of her daughters wrote her college essay about Yvonne. The teacher she had at four years old made an impression to last a lifetime.



Spotlight on...

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

THE STORYTELLING PROJECT

A little over a year ago, we began interviewing members of the congregation and writing articles about their lives and their relationship to HJC. It has been exciting to get this underway and we are thrilled that it is now integrated into the monthly newsletters. The project now has a permanent home in the hallway outside the office and as we continue to grow, so will the number of stories.

There are new elements of “storytelling” that fall under the umbrella of this project but have wings of their own. The Tzror Ha-Chayim booklet during yizkor at Yom Kippur was a way to include members who are no longer living. Sisterhood sponsored a wonderful evening last spring during which congregants who had converted to Judaism had a chance to tell their stories. It was an enriching and inspiring event. Sisterhood is sponsoring another program this fall, “Growing up Jewish in a Foreign Land.”

Looking ahead we are interested in including teens in the Storytelling Project by training them with interview techniques. Then we would like to pair teens with veteran members and conduct interviews, possibly video them and make a presentation.

We are looking for additional participants on this committee to help the Storytelling Project continue to grow. It is extremely rewarding to talk to members about their personal history, to learn about their lives and their connections to our community. We can use more interviewers, photographers and videographers, people who can edit and lend a hand.

Please contact Nancy Cooper with your ideas and interest. She can be reached at: 516-356-7109 or nancyberlow@gmail.com

With appreciation and best wishes for a good fall and winter,



Adult Education presents ~

Dilemmas in Faith



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

Thursday, October 15 & 22, Monday, October 26 & Thursday, November 5

8:00 pm in the Family Life Center

October 15 ~ Spiritual Role Models: The Ideal Religious Personality
October 22 ~ Faith and Politics: The Place of Religion in the Public Square
October 26 (Monday) ~ Finding Faith in the Modern World
November 5 ~ Do I Have to Believe in God to be a Good Jew?

Is Mother Teresa or Moses the ideal religious personality? What do you think of how American and Israeli politicians bring their religious beliefs into their political lives? What does it mean to have faith in the modern world where science has killed it? If I have doubts about God, can I be a good Jew? What is the connection between fundamentalism and faith? If I live Jewishly and act ethically, why do I need faith? Does religious faith belong in the public square? Can Jewish religious claims to the land of Israel be reconciled with Palestinian nationalism?

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 for Rabbi Kurshan's final adult education series at HJC.

SHALOM HARTMAN INSTITUTE OF NORTH AMERICA is shaping the future of North American Jewish life through transformative teaching, educating leaders and enriching the public conversation.



The Storytelling Committee

Nancy Cooper, Lesley Stark Delia, Nancy Bob, Dafna Saltes Stein, Elaine Kleinman, Marsha Kalina, Mark Zimmerman, Janet Zimmerman, Andrea Smoller, Cheryl Silberman, Rabbi Kurshan, Cantor Gordan

Donations

צדקה

GENERAL FUND

Sy Schpoont in memory of Hirsh Schpoont at yahrzeit.
Meri Schindler in memory of Sol Stafford at yahrzeit.
Lisa Golub in memory of Marjorie Ahronee at yahrzeit.
Nancy Cooper in memory of Richard Berlow at yahrzeit.
Judi Rosenblatt in memory of Jeanette Hopmayer at yahrzeit.
Joan & Robert Lifson in memory of Hannah Lifson at yahrzeit.
Marcia & Seymour Weinick in memory of Robert Feinstein at yahrzeit.
Marcia & Seymour Weinick in memory of Charles Feinstein at yahrzeit.
Marcia & Seymour Weinick in memory of Gertrude & Morris Weinick at yahrzeit.
Tania & Marvin Lipkind in memory of Sylvia Hudes at yahrzeit.
Andrea Dubow in memory of Samuel Goldstein at yahrzeit.
Roger Koreen in memory of Grace Koreen at yahrzeit.
Shelley Weinberg in memory of Rose Kramer at yahrzeit.
Susan & Sam Goldmeer in memory of William Goldmeer at yahrzeit.
Bela & Melvin Schoenfeld in memory of Lester Stein, uncle of Elaine Kleinmann.
Phil Glaser in memory of Sarah Glaser at yahrzeit.
Phyllis Levy in memory of Grace Goldblum at yahrzeit.
Linda Jonas in memory of Shirley Ackerman at yahrzeit.
Lawrence Maltin in memory of Ruth Maltin at yahrzeit.
Joyce Sacknoff in memory of Margaret Fuchs at yahrzeit.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Eva Barfus at yahrzeit.
Harriet Harris in memory of Benjamin Alpert at yahrzeit.
Myrna Tils in memory of Louise Friedman at yahrzeit.
Morris Lagnado in memory of Julia Lagnado at yahrzeit.
Loron Simon in memory of Manny Aaront at yahrzeit.
Michael Behr in memory of Sheila Behr at yahrzeit.
Rosalind Shaffer in memory of Sam Shaffer at yahrzeit.
Janet Goldstein in memory of Ralph Arditti at yahrzeit.
Ellen Meiselman in memory of Jennie Bloom at yahrzeit.
Ken Gutwein in memory of Renee Gutwein at yahrzeit.
Randi & Alan Schuller in memory of Mark Carter, father of Rosalind Wertheim.
Randi & Alan Schuller in memory of Gary Schuller at yahrzeit.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Syd Schlesinger
Barbara & Lew Meltzer in honor of Vered Cole being named a Simchat Torah honoree.
Joni Brenner in honor of Debbie Rosenkrantz.
Janet & Mark Zimmerman in memory of Mark Carter, father of Rosalind Wertheim.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the birth of Rayna Julia Pollack, granddaughter of Maxine & Rob Fisher.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Mike Schlesinger, husband of Syd Schlesinger.

CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Zachary Lasker in honor of Cantor Gordan, Abby Uhrman & family.
Zachary Lasker in honor of Cheryl & Lee Silberman.
Zachary Lasker in honor of Gail & Jim Lodge.
Bonnie & Lee Pedowicz in honor of Cantor Israel Gordan for helping to prepare Lee to recite the Haftarah on the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.
Joni Brenner in honor of Julie Brenner.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Joan & Norman Mattisinko in memory of Myra Berkowitz at yahrzeit.
Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Charlotte Hammerschlag at yahrzeit.
Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Willy Loewenstein at yahrzeit.
Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Anny Loewenstein at yahrzeit.

COLLEGIATE FUND

Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in honor of the birth of Gavriel Margolies, granddaughter of Mira & Paul Brodsky.
Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in honor of Vered Cole being named a Simchat Torah honoree.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Selma Greenstein
Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of Marsha Kalina.
Vicki & Tom Rosen wishing a speedy recovery to Lee Reiver.
Marlene & Lenny Hummel in honor of Vicki & Tom Rosen for hosting Daryin at the Ohio State University.
Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of the 65th birthday of Alan Orloff.
Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Mark Carter, father of Rosalind Wertheim.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Mark Carter, father of Rosalind Wertheim.
Judy & Lester Fox in honor of Vered Cole being named a Simchat Torah honoree.
Judy & Lester Fox in honor of Cheryl Berman being named a Simchat Torah honoree.
Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the 65th birthday of Alan Orloff.

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Liz & Steve Holbreich in honor of Vered Cole being named a Simchat Torah honoree.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Carol Lee Hayon & family in honor of Janet & Marty Kushnick.
Maxine & Rob Fisher in memory of Julian Fisher at yahrzeit.

Donations צדקה

Shelley & Marc Weinberg in honor of Vered Cole being named a Simchat Torah honoree.

Rene Levy in memory of Mark Carter, father of Rosalind Wertheim.

Sy Schpoont in memory of Mark Carter, father of Rosalind Wertheim.

Sue & David Lefkowitz wishing a speedy recovery to Hannah Kampel.

Janet & Martin Kushnick in memory of Ann Labb at yahrzeit.

Janet & Martin Kushnick in memory of Allen Miller at yahrzeit.

Arlene Steinberg & family in memory of Fred Steinberg at yahrzeit.


JNN News

The volunteers of the Jewish Nutritional Network are reaching our new milestone of providing our 270,000th meal as a lifeline for families truly in need. As of this report we continue to provide and deliver a nourishing meal prepared every Sunday in the HJC dairy kitchen to families housed in local motels. We also provide 40 meals for an after school program for children who's families are at risk. As of the beginning of October the JNN will be delivering 150 meals to a Homeless Shelter in our community. Please consider making a donation to the JNN'S continuing effort and/or volunteer.

The JNN will be providing 300, hot, ready to eat turkey dinners to families on Thanksgiving Day. This meal was purchased from Zan's Kosher Delicatessen, 135 Alexander Avenue, Lake Grove. The owner Pat gives use a good deal and even lets us use his delivery van. Pat is a true friend to HJC. If you're craving a good deli sandwich please try Zan's Kosher and tell him your from HJC. More info on Thanksgiving in the next issue.

Rob Fisher
JNN Coordinator
rfish51@aol.com

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THE MELTING POT COMEDY HOUR


Laugh and the whole world laughs with you!

Featuring the **STAND-OUT STAND-UP** of


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Melvin George II

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Thursday Evening, November 19th, 8 pm
Cash Bar. Raffles. Fun.

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Date: **Sunday, December 6th**

Time: **11am-1pm**

Location: **Huntington Jewish Center**

510 Park Ave, Huntington, NY 11743

Give your child the gift of camp this summer. Everything you need to know about Jewish summer experiences. Meet camp directors, learn about scholarships and speak with parents.

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY



Simchat Torah Honorees

Vered Cole

Vered's affiliation with the HJC spans almost 40 years. During these four decades Vered has seen many changes in the synagogue community, and has been an integral part of them. Some of these changes have been physical. Vered chaired the synagogue renovation in 1996. The synagogue was running out of space for a growing Nursery School and Religious School population and needed more and larger classrooms. The sanctuary was also improved as part of this renovation, in part, to make it a more intimate setting and reduce the gap between clergy and congregants. For several months the synagogue offices were in a trailer in the back parking lot.

The changes under Vered's leadership were not just physical. Vered was instrumental in bringing Roz Grossman z"l to HJC as the Religious School Director. Some will remember Roz's accordion and her boundless energy.

When Rabbi Kurshan arrived at HJC in 1985, Vered was serving on the Board of Trustees and the EC. She was the third president with whom the rabbi worked. Vered was the 41st president of the synagogue, but the first woman to serve in this capacity.

Vered's two sons, Ilan and Keren, celebrated their Bar Mitzvahs at HJC and her husband, Jack, has also been involved with the congregation. Throughout her years of leadership, Vered has had a particular interest in the quality of the synagogue's educational programs. For many years Vered has also co-chaired the synagogue's Special Arrangements Committee—a very sensitive and important area of the synagogue.

Vered grew up in Jerusalem, but as a young woman growing up in Israel was not immersed in synagogue life. The Huntington Jewish Center provided Vered with a Jewish home and community, a connection to Israel, and some of her best

friends. Through the ups and downs of life this community has always been an important source of support to Vered and her family. The beauty of the synagogue building and the quality of its programs are Vered's enduring legacy.

Cheryl Berman

Cheryl's first contact with the synagogue was through the naming of her daughter, Jessica, seventeen years ago. Shortly after the naming, her husband, Peter, decided that this was the place for him and his family, and Cheryl and Peter, along with their daughters, Jessica and Gabi, have been part of the congregation ever since.

Cheryl has served in numerous capacities in the synagogue. As did her children, she started in the Nursery School serving on the Nursery School Board and as Nursery School treasurer for a number of years. She then "graduated" to the Board of Trustees and to the Executive Committee, only leaving the Board last year when she had reached her term limit under the synagogue by-laws. Through her roles on the Board and the EC Cheryl has assumed many responsibilities in the shul—often responsibilities for which there was a dearth of volunteers. She has been a Liaison to the Early Childhood Center and worked on contract issues and budgets. She continues to maintain the synagogue online calendar. She co-chaired the Professional Structure Committee with Arthur Perler. With Andrea Morris she co-chaired the most recent search for a RS Director.

More generally the synagogue has played a central role in the life of Cheryl and her family. Both Jessica and Gabi celebrated their Bat Mitzvahs here. Peter has been involved in a number of projects himself. Peter and Cheryl have made many of their friends through the synagogue community as have their children. In short, the synagogue has been a place that has helped Cheryl to create the Jewish life she has wanted for her family.



PaintNite Event

HJC members and friends painted the night away at HJC's first ever Paint Nite on Saturday night, September 26th. The family friendly event drew 32 participants from kids to grandparents, and raised almost \$450 for HJC Religious School and Youth Groups programs. The evening was a great success that allowed everyone to share a fun activity while supporting a cause that invests in our future. Thanks to all who attended!



HJC Bulletin November 2015

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hjcny.org

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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 nine 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 and movies
- Monetary donations welcome

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

All food must be marked Kosher, Dairy

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

This year we will be hosting on the following dates:

December 2, 16, 24, January 13, 27, February 10, 24 and March 9, 30

Our sign-up and volunteer meeting will be

November 4 at 7 pm

For more information, please contact:

Ellen Steinberg at ellen.steinberg728@gmail.com

Karen Flanzenbaum at kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com