

# HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION



by Rabbi Kurshan

### Love Stories

We don't think of Judaism as a romantic tradition. Judaism is suspicious of passion that is expressed in volcanic emotions. The historical understanding of romantic love is that it happens outside of marriage and has no ultimate physical fulfillment. There is no Romeo and Juliet, Tristan and Isolde, or Heloise and Abelard in Jewish literature.

What we have in Judaism are the daily obligations of marriage. The Jewish marriage ceremony is a legal ceremony; there is no recitation of mutual love. The purpose of marriage is not to find "the love of one's life" bur rather procreation and companionship. Traditionally in Judaism marriage happened because of a shadchan who determined two people's suitability for one another--not because two people "fell in love". Goldie and Tevye in Fiddler on the Roof express the Jewish view of love when they discuss what love means after twenty-five years of marriage. Goldie says to Tevye:

For twenty-five years I've washed your clothes

Cooked your meals, cleaned your house

Given you children, milked the cow

After twenty-five years, why talk about love right now?

In other words love has nothing to do with romance; it is about the daily actions of a marriage.

And yet the place of romance in Jewish tradition (or lack thereof) is not so simple to define. One of the earliest references we have to love in all of literature is found in the Tanach when we are told of Isaac's meeting with Sarah: "Isaac brought her (Rebecca) into the tent of his mother, Sarah...Isaac loved her." (Genesis 24:67) When Jacob met Rachel, we are told that he "wept aloud" and the traditional commentators tell us that he wept out of the sheer uncontained joy of great love. The Song of Songs that we read on Passover is a poem of soaring passions about a couple intoxicated by love.

So there is romance in Jewish tradition, but its place within our tradition is a complicated one. This year in my final film Saturday night film series we will be watching three Jewish love stories. Each is gloriously romantic. "Crossing Delancey" is the story of a beautiful, intelligent woman in her thirties living on the Upper West Side struggling with how the prospect of marriage will compromise her independence. The Apartment" 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 and his own love life. Casablanca, my all time favorite films, 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. Whether Casablanca can be characterized as a Jewish movie is an interesting question in and of itself. Each of these movies will be a springboard for discussing how romance intersects with Jewish values and traditions.

Come join us for these showings and be swept off your feet. Together we will figure out if one can be a Jewish romantic.





### 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 gogetting 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

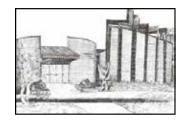
### **HELP WANTED!**

### 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



Neil Kurshan, Rabbi 423-5355

Israel Gordan, Hazzan, Director, Synogagogue Programming and Religious School Innovation

427-1089, ext. 22

Hene Brown

Director, Early Childhood Center 425-1089, ext 15

Allison Reiver President 427-1089

**Maxine Fisher** Religious School Director 427-1157 ext. 14

> Barbara Axmacher Executive Director 427-1089, ext 23

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**HJC Committee Chairpersons** 

| Bulletin.  | Kim Willen          |
|--|---------------------|
| Calendar   | Gwen Goldstein      |
| Cemetery   |                     |
| Chai Club.   |                     |
| Congregational DinnersLesley Stark &                         |                     |
| Early Childhood Center BoardSuzanne Hepworth, Juliet Saturn, | , Jessica Frischman |
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| Family LifeSuzanne Hepworth, Cari Schuller, Andrea M         | orris, Lisa Hadar   |
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| Greeters   | .Maxine Fisher      |
| High Holiday Honors  | Joel Wirchin        |
| Israel/Ramah Scholarships                                    | Judy Fox            |
| Israel Committee   | Scott Ingber        |
| Jewish Theological Seminary                                  | Mitch Pashkin       |
| Kol Nidre AppealAmal   | & Alon Kapen        |
| MembershipTracy Kaplowitz & Ela                              | aine Kleinmann      |
| Men's Club   | Ofer Rind           |
| Religious School BoardSheri Bram & I                         | Felicia Messing     |
| Ritual   | Andrea Smoller      |
| Selichot Lecture   |                     |
| Sisterhood   | Miriam Wirchin      |
| Social ActionJanet Kushnick &                                | Marilyn Klein       |
| Special ArrangementsVered Cole & I                           | David Walsdorf      |
| Sunshine   | Leslie Hantverk     |
| Theater Develpment   | Arthur Perler       |
| Technology   | Jeff Stark          |
| Tree of Life   | Tom Rosen           |
| UJA  | Scott Ingber        |
| Webmaster  | Arthur Perler       |
| Youth  | Shari Klaire        |
| Youth Advisor  | Rebecca Buzen       |

5776 2015

# October

### tishri cheshvan



| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY                 | THURSDAY                              | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY                                  |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
|  |  |  |                           | 18 tishri                             | 2 19 tishri 🥡                                  | 3 20 tishri                               |
|  |  |  |                           |                                       | Minyan Breakfast 8am<br>Sponsored Judy Leopold | Jr Congregation 10:30am                   |
|  |  |  |                           | Pizza In The Hut 6pm                  |  |   |
|  |  |  |                           | INTERMEDIATE DAY                      | INTERMEDIATE DAY                               | CHOL HAMOED                               |
| 4 21 tishri  | 5 22 tishri 💥  | 6 23 tishri  | 7 24 tishri               | 8 <sup>25 tishri</sup>                | 9 <sup>26 tishri</sup>                         | 10 27 tishri                              |
| Family Connect<br>Sukkah Hop                       | Main Office Closed<br>ECC Closed<br>Simchat Torah Services | Main Office Closed<br>ECC Closed<br>RS Closed<br>Simcha Torah Luncheon |                           | Professional Staff Meeting<br>12:45pm |  | Jared Buchholtz<br>Bar Mitzvah 9:30am     |
| JNN<br>HOSHANAH RABBAH                             | SHEMINI ATZERET YIZKOR                                     | SIMCHAT TORAH<br>Vezot Habrachah                                       |                           |                                       |  | Bereshit                                  |
| 11 28 tishri                                       | 12 <sup>29 tishri</sup>                                    | 13 <sup>30 tishri</sup>  | 14 1 cheshvan             | 15 2 cheshvan                         | 16 3 cheshvan                                  | 17 4 cheshvan                             |
| Israel Committee Event<br>10am<br>Ridotto 4pm      | ECC Closed<br>EC Meeting 7:30pm<br>COLUMBUS DAY            | RS / Chaverim  |                           |                                       |  | Auf Ruf<br>Rachel Tydings & Dan Zar       |
| RS Closed JNN                                      | CANADIAN<br>THANKSGIVING                                   | Wise Aging 7:30pm  ROSH CHODESH  | ROSH CHODESH              | Dilemmas in Faith II 8pm              | Friday Night Live! 6pm                         | Noach                                     |
| 18 <sup>5 cheshvan</sup>                           | 19 6 cheshvan  | 20 7 cheshvan  | 21 8 cheshvan             | 22 9 cheshvan                         | 23 <sup>10 cheshvan</sup>                      | 24 11 cheshvan                            |
| Board Meeting 9:30am<br>Mens Club Hike *           | Ritual Committee 8pm                                       |  |                           |                                       |  | Spencer Kriegstein<br>Bar Mitzvah 9:30 am |
| RS / USY /Kadima<br>JNN                            | Sisterhood Board Meeting<br>8pm                            | Wise Aging 7:30pm  |                           | Dilemma's of Faith II 8pm             |  | Jr Congregation 10:30am  Lech Lecha       |
| 25 12 cheshvan                                     | 26 13 cheshvan   | 27 14 cheshvan   | 28 15 cheshvan            | 29 16 cheshvan                        | 30 <sup>17 cheshvan</sup>                      | 31 18 cheshvan                            |
| MC Meeting 9:15am<br>Hike Raindate*                |  | RS / Chaverim  |                           | SH Rummage Drop Off                   | SH Rummage Drop Off                            |   |
| RS Board Meeting 9:15am<br>RS - Lone Soldier Movie |  | UJA Suffolk Signature<br>Event   | Paid Up Sisterhood Dinner | Professional Staff Meeting<br>12:45pm |  |   |
| USY / Kadima<br>JNN                                | Dilemmas in Faith II 8pm                                   |  | 6:30pm                    | Wise Aging 7:30pm                     |  | Vayera                                    |



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
HE HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

510 Park Avenue Huntington New York 11743 631-427-1089 / www.hjcny.org

# View from the Director's Chair by Barbara Axmacher



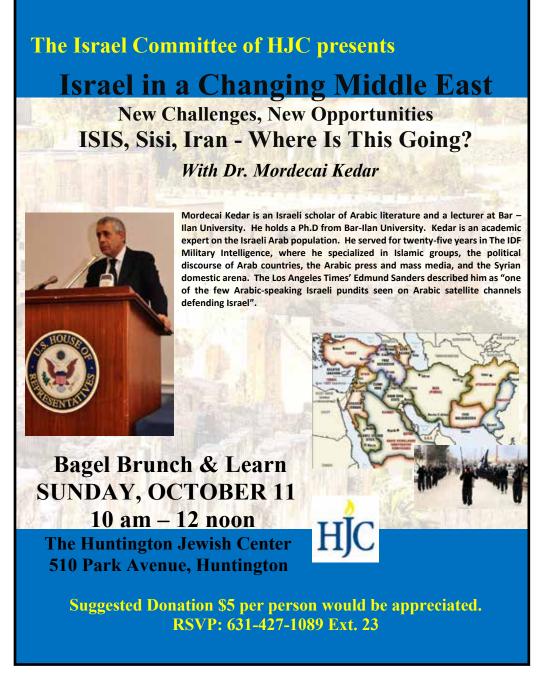
### The Old College Try

Pick a generation, any generation; Baby Boomer, Sandwich Generation, Generation X, Millennials - the list goes on . All of us are defined by at least one of these cultural identities, in fact many of us "cross-over" like me - a Baby Boomer, now an empty nester and heading into the Sandwich Generation! Yes, the house is much quieter and I might work a little longer, but I am beginning to welcome the "free-time". Dedicating a piece of my life to raising a family is time I would never give or take back, but I have made a commitment to myself to fill this new part of my life with time well spent. It is a gift to have more than one opportunity in a year to pause and reflect, to allow for introspection and plan for the future. Perhaps now, like my children, I am a student as well and must learn to redefine my life . . . and I'm going to give it the old college try!

This fall, both of my children are officially living out of our home as college students. Hannah, my daughter, is a freshman living on campus and Raleigh, my son, who spent his first two years at a local college, has now transferred, as a junior, to attend school in Florida. Of course, I knew this day was coming and I had decades to prepare myself, but theory and practice are simply two different things.

It is difficult (however well earned!) as a hands-on mother to welcome this stage of life; peppered with loneliness and feelings of what do I do now . . . no meals to prepare, no laundry to do, no homework to help with? In the infamous words of James Stockton, "Who am I and why am I here?" My identity has been wrapped up in my children for twenty years; eating, breathing and sleeping for them, their safety, their happiness and their welfare.

So, as I haven't used them in a while, I slowly started flexing my independence muscles; sleeping a little later on the weekend, getting a pedicure, having a shopping day with friends, putting a container of Hagen Daz in the freezer (and finding it not empty and in the same spot!) I am cultivating new "little" ways to bring life to my everyday while Raleigh and Hannah are away.



## **HJC Community News**

#### **MAZAL TOV**

Dr. Ellen Kahn announces the engagement of her granddaughter, Devorah Kahn, to Eliezer Dayan.

Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith announce the engagement of their son, David, to Jessica Silverman.

Mira & Paul Brodsky announce the birth of their granddaughter, Gavriel Margolies.

Gwen & Ron Goldstein announce the engagement of their daughter, Rachel, to Jonathan Hirschberger.

#### **CONDOLENCES**

Holly Aronow on the death of her father, Peter Nicolls Goetz. Lisa Felderman on the death of her mother, Natalie Morris.

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

Abraham & Lauren Bash of Huntington Station and their daughter Gabriella, age 1.

Hal & Evelyn Bernfeld of Huntington Station and their adult children: Haley, Remi & Aaron.

Ross & Lauren Cohen of Huntington and their children: Leo, age 4 and Remy, age 11/2.

Marc & Ilona Goldstein of Huntington and their son, Zachary, age 4 1/2.

Mark & Sarrit Haik of Greenlawn and their children: Ilana, age 8 and Oren, age 6.

Brian & Robin Marder of Huntington & their son, Jacob



### **Bar Mitzvah**



# SPENCER ELI KRIEGSTEIN Son of Ora and Alan Kriegstein

Spencer is a seventh grader at East Woods School where he is on the High Academic, High Effort, and Citizenship honor rolls. He enjoys a wide variety of activities including sailing, baseball, cross country running, chess, trumpet, student council and poker, and is an avid fan of football, hockey and tennis. He also loves to cook, as well as make his own pickles and tomato sauce from vegetables grown in his garden. Above all, he loves playing outdoors with his sisters, dog, and neighborhood friends. Spencer has been studying very hard for his Bar Mitzvah. His parents and sisters, Brittany and Caroline, love him very much and are so proud of him! Our family is so excited to share this joyous day with friends and family!



# JARED BUCHHOLTZ Son of Johanna Torres and Andrew Buchholtz

Jared Buchholtz is an 8th Grade Honor student at Harborfield's Oldfield Middle School. He enjoys playing basketball, writing stories, playing video games and spending time outdoors. He is proud to be one of the trumpet players of his school's Jazz Ensemble, a passion that started when he was in 3rd grade. Some of his fondest memories are from the many trips visiting family in Puerto Rico and of his recent trip to Israel with his dad. Older siblings Alec and Renée, his parents and extended family are very excited to celebrate the blessing of Jared's Bar Mitzvah.

### **President's Perspective**

by Allison Reiver



In last month's bulletin I wrote about how Mitch and I are now part of the "sandwich" generation, positioned between our aging parents and our young-adult children. This article will really serve as Part 2 to last month's column. While a good part of our summer was indeed devoted to my father-in-law and his health and tough decisions about his next step, a part of my summer was also devoted to my dad.

By way of background, in late spring Mitch and I noticed that his dad and my parents were expressing sincere regret about having never traveled to Israel. Although they all did plenty of traveling throughout their lives, they never chose Israel as a destination and now, in their 80s, were sorry about that decision. So, what else was there to do but plan a trip to Israel for our parents? Once we started putting the trip together, my older sister Robbin, who also had never been to Israel but has really been yearning to go for the last few years, asked to join us. The six of us made plans to go in late July for 10 days with our own tour guide who had a van that could fit a wheelchair for my father-in-law. This trip was really focused on traveling with older people: we were going to stay at one hotel in Jerusalem the entire time which we thought would be easiest for my father-in-law, plan relatively easy days and plenty of down time. Well, as I wrote last month, my father-in-law fell in late June which resulted in him having to cancel. Once he was out. Mitch decided he couldn't leave his dad alone (and good thing he did decide that because his dad unexpectedly needed surgery during our scheduled dates). My mom's doctor subsequently told her traveling so far wouldn't be a good idea, so she had to cancel as well. My father, my sister and I were the last ones standing so we decided to travel to Israel anyway despite the fact that our group of six was now three.

Since we were now able to travel around the country more freely, we changed our itinerary to spend time up North, in Jerusalem and in Tel Aviv. Although I had been to many of the same places in my previous trips to Israel, it was a whole new experience being with this part of my family. Taking pictures with my dad overlooking the Kinneret, or on a jeep ride near the Syrian border, or at Mount Zion. Dayeniu. Having him tell us how being at the Kotel made him feel an unexpectedly deep connection with his parents and grandparents. Dayeniu. Having him come home and tell everyone that he wished he had traveled to Israel at a younger age so that he would know he would be able to return. Dayeniu. Having my sister come home and immediately join the Bellmore Jewish Center, the first synagogue she has ever



### **GET INVOLVED! With Sisterhood!**

We always need volunteers to help staff events, assist in the kitchen for Shabbat Kiddushes, and help with fundraising and programs. Volunteering is a good way to meet people and become an active member at HJC.

### Join Us! Support the Sisterhood of HJC! SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, 10/28 SISTERHOOD PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP DINNER

The Sturgeon Queens: the amusing, engaging documentary about 3 generations of Russ & Daughter's, the famous Lower East Side appetizing emporium.

Come meet, mingle and enjoy a great dinner and program. \$45 for regular membership. \$30 for senior membership. New members to HJC receive a complimentary Sisterhood membership for their first year.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> - Paid-up Membership Dinner October 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> - Drop off dates for Fall Rummage Sale November 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> - Rummage Sale – Volunteers needed! November 5<sup>th</sup> - Book Discussion @ 1pm *In the Unlikely Event* by Judy Blume

**November 12**<sup>th</sup> – Growing Up Jewish in Foreign Lands November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sisterhood Board Meeting

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



Thank you to all who were a honey and participated in HJC's Honey Fundraiser.

Approximately \$1000 was raised for HJC!





**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.

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belonged to. Dayeniu.

There is something about being in Israel that is so perplexing to me. Traveling 11 hours, as far from home as I have ever been, and feeling like I am at home. How can that be? I have had the good fortune to travel there with Mitch and our boys with our best friends, and again on a women's trip. Add to that list a trip with two of my favorite people in the world who felt the magic of Israel. Priceless!!

### 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.



### **Three Cheers for the Bulletin!**

by Hazzan Israel Gordan



It may be hard to believe, but not all of us here at the Huntington Jewish Center (and indeed, I'd guess, at most synagogues across the country) love writing bulletin columns every month. It may not seem like much, especially since it's only nine times a year (and not 12), but the due date of the 10th of the month preceding the date of publication, always seems to sneak up on us at the most inconvenient of times. No matter how much planning goes into scheduling the daily, weekly, and monthly responsibilities, the

bulletin article seems to somehow end up slipping through the cracks, or at least for me.

Each month I am plagued with the thoughts: What should I write about? Have I already covered this topic? Is it timely? Just because I am thinking about something while writing does not mean it will be relevant three weeks later when the bulletin will be published. Now, for example, I am frantically involved with last minute High Holiday planning. By the time this article is published, however, almost all of the fall Jewish holidays will be over with perhaps only Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah left. We have just begun the school year but by then our children will be well ensconced with the daily rituals and weekly routines of school life. The heat of the summer will probably feel like a distant memory as the falling temperatures are combined with falling leaves.

Many times, it seems easy to dismiss the bulletin article: What's the point? Who cares? Does anyone actually read this? These are all valid questions, but I am always struck by those who not only read the articles, but comment on them. The points of contact with the synagogue are varied and equally important for all parties involved. I interact with our Shabbat regulars, our minyannaires, our Bar/Bat Mitzvah students and their parents, our ECC students and their families, and others. Among those others include those who read the bulletin. For many people, this is either their only or most important way to know what is going on in the synagogue and in the lives of its professionals. The bulletin is a very important way that our synagogue stays connected with many of our members.

Last month I wrote about an experience I had with my son during services and I have been amazed by how much positive feedback I have received for that piece. I have often found great inspiration and wisdom from the rabbi's columns and it is always good to hear what's happening with the president, our ECC director and the director of our religious school. There are always notices of upcoming events as well as life cycle events for members of our community. We must thank Kim Willen for all of the amazing volunteer work she does in compiling, organizing, and publishing the bulletin.

I look forward to continued conversations on many topics with all of you, be it in person, over the phone, by email, or through the pages of this bulletin.

### **Religious School Update**

by Maxine Fisher Religious School Administrator

I want to remind everyone that there are many different kinds of programs for all ages on Shabbat morning.

There is babysitting in the gym for ages up to 4 years old. Come join us for services in the main sanctuary while your child is in babysitting. Babysitting starts at 10:30 throughout the year.

We have a group for children 4-7 years old called Nitzanim. The Nitzanim leader plays games, reads a story, talks about the weekly Torah portion and the kids frost cupcakes or cookies to eat. They learn the blessings over the wine and Challah and are taught how to recite Ayn Keloheinu for when they are called up as a group to sing in the main sanctuary on the bima. Again, while you are in the main sanctuary. Nitzanim starts at 10:40 every Shabbat throughout the year in the Family Life room.

During the school year there is Junior Congregation in the Lief Chapel from 10:30 - 11:45 twice a month (check the school calendar for dates) for 3rd - 6th grade. The children learn the Shabbat morning service and have fun acting out the weekly Torah portion from a book of Sedra Scenes. They also make kiddish and motzie.

The students in religious school need to attend at least 10 Shabbat Service (8 for Nitzanim age) by the end of the year. Every time they attend services they have an index card that they or the leader stands up to show they attended services and is recorded after Shabbat.

As you can see, there is something going on for everyone on Shabbat morning. When all the services and programs are over, everyone comes together in the Kiddush Lounge for, what else but food!

#### **Upcoming dates to remember:**

Saturday, October 3rd is the first Junior Congregation of the year

Sunday, October 4th join us for Pizza in the Hut at noon

Monday, October 5th is Simchat Torah

Tuesday, October 20th is the first Chaverim (youth group for grades 4-6) 6:15-7:30

Saturday, October 24th: Junior Congregation

Sunday, October 25th: Mitzvah Team Lone Soldier program

Have a wonderful October,

Maxine

### 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 -

### **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



### And They Are Off.....

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." Dr. Suess

The first week of school has been so successful. I am amazed at how easily the children are acclimating into their new classrooms. Even "first time separators" are happy and engaged in every class. The classrooms and halls are filled with

excitement and energy which is truly invigorating. There is singing, dancing, and so much learning that is taking place in every classroom.

We welcomed 23 new families this year. We are thrilled to have these incredible warm and kind families as part of HJC. The Parent Association, led by Jessica Frishman and Suzanne Hepworth implemented what we are calling "The Mentor Program." They are pairing up an ECC family that has been with us for the past year or two with a new ECC family. Through this mentor program, the new ECC family has instant friends in the ECC. During the late summer the ECC mentor has called the new family to introduce themselves and to let them know they will be there to help or assist them with anything they may need. This has helped to make an easy transition for the new family including the children. Following the introduction, The Parent Association assembled a "Meet and Greet" at the HJC playground prior to the first day of school so that the new families could meet other families and the alumni families could reconnect. I am truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful community.

Wishing everyone a very happy and healthy new year. L'Shanah Tovah!!













# 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** 



#### Ethel Sachs

HJC has been a central part of Ethel Sachs' life for over 62 years during which time she has given and received so much from our congregation.

Ethel and her sister were born to Polish immigrant parents in Woodridge, New York, a tightly knit Orthodox leaning community in the Catskills, where she was surrounded by the love of extended family and friends. Like most of the few yearround residents in Woodridge, her extended family was involved in the industries serving the summer resorts. Her parents owned and operated a kosher bakery. She was told by her parents, whom she recognizes as having set a good example for her, that it was important to give back to one's community. Her parents valued education and made sure she would go to a college that would give her options other than a teaching degree so she would have choices, and so, instead of attending a State college, she attended University of Cincinnati initially and later graduated from

Syracuse University where she exercised her options and, in the end, chose a degree in Education anyway.

Unlike most of our long time members who came to Huntington as newlyweds on the trail of the jobs of the husbands of the family, Ethel boldly came to Huntington as a young single woman. Eager to leave the country life of small town Woodridge, she applied for a teaching job in Huntington, which, in her mind, was NOT the country because it was on Long Island, only to arrive here and discover that she had jumped from the frying pan into the fire. She was the only Jewish teacher in the rural school where she taught and was feeling isolated and detached. She reached out to Rabbi Roth at the Huntington Hebrew Congregation to inquire about a young adults group in his congregation. Although there was none, Rabbi Roth did introduce her to several young women from his congregation who were also teachers and she began her social life in Huntington. It was through these new friends that she met her husband Ben, who was working in Commack as an industrial engineer and in June 1958 they were married. With Ben she had three children, who have given her nine wonderful grandchildren. She is very proud that all of her children and grandchildren are actively involved in Jewish life.

Ethel never went back to teaching full time after her children were born. She became very active in both the community at large and in our synagogue community. She was active in the elementary, high school and district PTA, eventually serving as PTA President. Here at HJC she was actively involved in the

HJC religious school affairs, took an active role in Sisterhood, eventually serving as its President, and the HJC Board, eventually serving as a the President of our synagogue. She was also involved in the larger Jewish community, taking an active role in various Jewish philanthropic organizations, including Women's League at a Regional level, and National Woman's League. She considers herself very fortunate to have had a husband who supported and encouraged her involvement in these community affairs.

Attending services and Jewish learning have always been important to Ethel. She attended services with her children on Friday nights and to this day is a devoted attendee on Saturday mornings. At HJC she has often attended the Rabbi's classes. Ethel explains that Ben, although not himself a shul attendee, deeply understood the importance of sustaining the synagogue for all of the people who were and so he and Ethel were generous donors to HJC.

Today Ethel sees herself as having an unofficial "special job" at HJC. Her mission, as she describes it, is to "be nosey," to reach out to new members and to make then feel recognized and welcome. She advises all the new Presidents to do the same. Her goal is to share the special warmth of our congregation with anyone who is considering joining or has already done so. She is on this mission because she recognizes that HJC today is not what it was 60 years ago, that it is constantly evolving and that our newest members are its future.

# Donations אדקה

#### **GENERAL FUND**

Carol Baker in memory of Hyman Marcus at yahrzeit. Howard Baker in memory of Ruth Baker at yahrzeit. June Reiner in memory of Daniel Reiner at yahrzeit. Gary Schoer in memory of Bernice Schoer at yahrzeit. Vered & Jack Cole in memory of Michael Cole at yahrzeit. Loron Simon in memory of Ronald Simon at yahrzeit. Ethel Schwartz-Bock in memory of Hannah Sandler at yahrzeit. Shirley Vilinsky in memory of Hesh Vilinsky at yahrzeit. Mitchell Golub in memory of Charles Golub at yahrzeit. Joanne Cohn in memory of Zelda Mulberg at yahrzeit. Liz Holbreich in memory of Charlotte Zirkel at yahrzeit. Seymour Schpoont in memory of Beverly Schpoont at yahrzeit. Philip Glaser in memory of Jerome Cohen at yahrzeit. Susan Drucker in memory of Oscar Drucker at yahrzeit. Roberta Marsh in memory of Solomon Jacobs at yahrzeit. Marilyn Koven in memory of Stanley Koven at yahrzeit. Richard Wertheim in memory of Irene Wertheim at yahrzeit. Matthew Raskin in memory of Daniel Raskin at yahrzeit. Alvin Wichard in memory of Philip Wichard at yahrzeit. Helga & Albert Kramer in memory of Eva Kramer at yahrzeit. Miriam & Ron Goldberg in memory of Julius L. Goldberg at vahrzeit.

Selma Greenstein wishing good health & happiness to all. Loron Simon in memory of Jane Simon at yahrzeit. Richard Klee in memory of Carole Klee at yahrzeit. Esther & Steven Schwartz in honor of the birthday of Marsha Perlmutter Kalina.

Susan & Alvin Wichard in memory of Al Albecrack.

Andrea & Howard Dubow in memory of Ken Rosenblatt,
husband of Renda Rosenblatt.

Rosalyn Haber in memory of Mike Schlesinger, husband of Syd Schlesinger.

Rosalyn Haber in honor of the birth of Rayna Julia Pollack, granddaughter of Maxine & Rob Fisher.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Natalie Morris, mother of Lisa Felderman.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Ken Rosenblatt, husband of Renda Rosenblatt.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the birth of Rayna Julia Pollack, granddaughter of Maxine & Rob Fisher.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ilan, son of Felicia & Keith Messing.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Joyce Berlow, mother of Nancy Cooper.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the engagement of Michael, son of Leslie & Jack Rubin, to Shoshana Roberts.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the engagement of Dan, son of Dale & Phil Mintz, to Sarah Bogorad.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Sanford Flanzenbaum, father of David Flanzenbaum.

Arthur Boshnack in memory of Lillian Boshnack at yahrzeit. Susan & Sam Goldmeer in memory of William Goldmeer at yahrzeit.

Anita Gelberg in memory of Melvin Gelberg at yahrzeit. Marc Weinberg in memory of Sarah Weinberg at yahrzeit. Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in memory of Samuel Butlein at yahrzeit.

Marilyn & Gary Woghin in memory of Sally Woghin at yahrzeit. Sarah Eidelberg in memory of Jonah Eidelberg at yahrzeit. Martin Rosenblatt in memory of Sidney Rosenblatt at yahrzeit. Pam Singer in honor of Howard & Shanah Gordon & family.

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Doris & Donald Maiman in memory of Larry Maiman, Minnie & Phillip Rosen, Paul Stillman, Jean & Charles Fritz, Dora & Harry Maiman, & Anna Richter at yahrzeit.

Susan & Nathan Board in memory of Kenneth Board at yahrzeit. Renda Rosenblatt with respect & admiration for Rabbi Kurshan & tremendous thanks for helping her & her family through very trying times.

Renda Rosenblatt in appreciation of my wonderful friends without whom she & her family could not have endured the trauma & heartache of the last few months.

Susan Board & family in memory of Benjamin Yahre at yahrzeit.

#### **ARNIE KERNS FUND**

Harriet Kerns in memory of Clara Feit at yahrzeit. Harriet Kerns in memory of William Feit at yahrzeit.

#### **BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND**

Yolanda Barfus in memory of Mike Schlesinger, husband of Syd Schlesinger.

Marilyn & David Klein in memory of Mike Schlesinger, husband of Syd Schlesinger.

Marilyn & David Klein in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ilan, son of Felicia & Keith Messing.

#### **CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND**

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in honor of the college graduation of Zach, son of Jennifer & Scott Ingber.

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in honor of the birth of Elizabeth Rose Saunders, granddaughter of Sarah & Jerry Saunders.

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in honor of the engagement of Rachel, daughter of Gwen & Ron Goldstein, to Jonathan Hirschberger.

#### **DAILY MINYAN FUND**

Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of the engagement of David, son of Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith, to Jessica Silverman.

Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Natalie Morris, mother of Lisa Felderman.

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Molly Rencoff at yahrzeit.

# צרקה Donations

### DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the engagement of Michael, son of Leslie & Jack Rubin, to Shoshana Roberts.
- Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Klein, grandson of Carol & Marshall Adelstein.
- Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Lois Reiter.
- Judy & Lester Fox wishing a speedy recovery to Gary Schoer.
- Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Natalie Morris, mother of Lisa Felderman.
- Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Irving Greenberg.
- Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ilan, son of Felicia & Keith Messing.
- Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the engagement of David, son of Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith, to Jessica Silverman.
- Joan & Norman Mattisinko in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ilan, son of Felicia & Keith Messing.

### SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Marilyn Johnson

Marlene & Lenny Hummel in memory of Gene Hummel at vahrzeit.

Marlene & Lenny Hummel wishing a speedy recovery to Harvey Berger.

Marsha Buchholtz in memory of Jeanette Rosenberg at yahrzeit.

Marsha Buchholtz in memory of Sara Sitron at yahrzeit. Marsha Buchholtz in memory of Sadie Sitron at yahrzeit.

Hannah Kampel in memory of William Kampel at yahrzeit.

Susi Susskind in memory of Eric Lieberman at yahrzeit.

Susi Susskind in memory of Elsa Laemmle at yahrzeit.

Susi Susskind in memory of Isaak Laemmle at yahrzeit.

Liz & Steve Holbreich in honor of the birth of Gavriel Margolies, granddaughter of Mira & Paul Brodsky.

Renee & Bill Saperstein in honor of the birth of Rayna Julia Pollack, granddaughter of Maxine & Rob Fisher.

Shelley & Marc Weinberg in honor of the engagement of David, son of Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith, to Jessica Silverman.

Shelley & Marc Weinberg in memory of Joseph Koreen, father of Amy Koreen & Roger Koreen.

Shelley & Marc Weinberg in memory of Ken Rosenblatt, husband of Renda Rosenblatt.



## CELEBRATE



Join us on

# Simchat Torah

as we dance with the Torahs!

Tuesday, October 6th Services begin at 9:30 am

Luncheon honoring

Vered Cole & Cheryl Berman

following services

| <u>*</u>  |                     | *     |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| If you plan to attend the luncheon, please let us know. RSVP to the Synagogue office no later than Friday, September 25. Cost is \$25.00 per person. Free for children under 6. |                     |       |  |  |  |  |
| NAME  | Phone               | Email |  |  |  |  |
| Number of adults attending  | x \$25.00 =         | \$    |  |  |  |  |
| Number of vegetarian lunches  | x \$25.00           | = \$  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of children under age 6 a  | ittending           |       |  |  |  |  |
| Enclosed is my check/credit card  | in the amount of \$ |       |  |  |  |  |
| Please charge my MasterCard/Vis   | sa card #           | exp   |  |  |  |  |
| House Number  | Zip code            |       |  |  |  |  |



# HJC SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH A

# PROJECT REPLENISH PROJECT ISAIAH



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

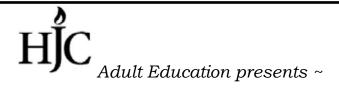
From September 4th to October 6th, there will be bags available at HJC to fill and return

with nourishing, non perishable, healthy food in unopened containers.

Please do not bring Passover foods.

We will be bringing our collection to the Mid Island Y JCC Jewish Communal Fund Food Pantry so they may help fill the empty food pantry shelves.

We know we can count on your support.



### 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.



### **HJC Bulletin** October 2015

Huntington Jewish Center 510 Park Avenue Huntington, NY 11743

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presenting the

Community Leadership Award to

KIM AND JOE WILLEN

Community Service Award to DR. TOBA WEINSTEIN AND DR. JOEL SIEV

Community Service Award to GAIL AND GERALD JOSPA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015 • 6:30 P.M. 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Elaborate cocktail hour and dinner 8:15 p.m. Program

35 Bagatelle Road, Melville, New York

Couvert: \$110\* per person

Guest Speaker ALISA RUBIN KURSHAN

Executive Vice President, Community Planning and Agency Resources, UJA-Federation of New York

Dietary Laws Strictly Observed.

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

\*The couvert represents the value of the event and is not tax-deductible. This event is intended for donors of \$500 or more to the 2016 Annual Campaign. We welcome your pledge now and request payment before Saturday, December 31, 2016. With your gift, you'll have the special opportunity to attend other select UJA-Federation events during the 2016 campaign year.