



## HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION

# Join us as we celebrate Rabbi Kurshan



### **RABBI KUSHAN TO SHARE HIS FAVORITE TEXTS**

Come to the Shavuot Tikkun, (study session)  
following services on **Saturday June 11, 2016**  
to explore the wisdom of those texts

**Services at 8:30pm, Tikkun at 9:00pm**

**FABULOUS dairy desserts to follow the Tikkun**

### **Save the date for:**

**Rabbi Kushan's Farewell Shabbat**  
**Saturday, June 18, 2016**  
*Kiddush to follow services*

*and*

**Farewell Dessert Reception**  
**Sunday, June 19, 2016**  
*details to follow*



## **The American Synagogue: Past, Present and Future**

a special panel discussion moderated by Rabbi Neil Kurshan

**Thursday evening May 19, 2016 - 8:00 pm**

**Join us as the panelists discuss their unique perspectives and invite us  
to explore this important topic facing contemporary Judaism.**

### **Panelists:**

#### **Rabbi Deborah Joselow**

Managing Director,  
the Commission on Jewish Identity and Renewal (COJIR)

#### **Rabbi Jeremy Kalmonofsky**

Ansche Chesed

#### **Rabbi Joy Levitt**

Executive Director  
The Jewish Community Center, Manhattan

### **RSVP by May 10 to**

[hjcrsvp123@gmail.com](mailto:hjcrsvp123@gmail.com)

#### **The Rabbi Neil Kurshan Legacy Celebration**

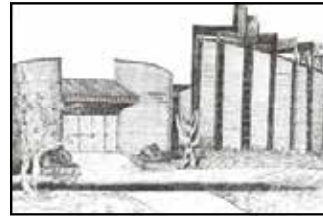
Huntington Jewish Center 510 Park Avenue, Huntington



*see page 5 for Rabbi's column*

## Sabbatical for Rabbi Neil Kurshan

Rabbi Kurshan will be on sabbatical from February 2 - May 1, 2015. During this time please contact **Debbie Rosenkrantz** in the main office (427-1089 Ext. 10), or **Cantor Israel Gordan** (x22) about life cycle events, hospital visits, or any other matters that require the attention of clergy. This will enable the appropriate person from the synagogue to be in touch with you. In the event of anything urgent when the office is closed, please contact the synagogue president, **Allison Reiver** (almitchr@aol.com 631-673-0927). Your cooperation will ensure that we are able to be of support to you during Rabbi Kurshan's absence.



**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

**Ilene Brown**  
Director, Early Childhood Center  
425-1089, ext 15

**Barbara Axmacher**  
Executive Director  
427-1089, ext 23

### HJC Board of Trustees/ 2015-2016

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### HJC Committee Chairpersons

Bulletin.....	Kim Willen
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Jewish Theological Seminary.....	Mitch Pashkin
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Social Action.....	Janet Kushnick & Marilyn Klein
Special Arrangements.....	Vered Cole & David Walsdorf
Sunshine.....	Leslie Hantverk
Theater Development.....	Arthur Perler
Technology.....	Jeff Stark
Tree of Life.....	Tom Rosen
UJA.....	Scott Ingber
Webmaster.....	Arthur Perler
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Youth Advisor.....	Rebecca Buzen



### Schedule of Passover Services 5776 – 2016

<b>Friday, April 22</b>	<b>Fast of the First Born and Siyyum</b>	7:00 a.m.
An early morning service in the Lief Chapel will be followed by a study session and a light meal sponsored by the Men's Club to break the fast. All first born and others are welcome. Also see "SIYYUM - THE FAST OF THE FIRST BORN" below.		
<b>Friday, April 22</b>	<b>Mincha, Maariv, First Seder</b>	6:00 p.m.
	First Seder	Candle Lighting 7:19 p.m.
<b>Shabbat, April 23</b>	<b>Shacharit, First Day</b>	9:30 a.m.
	Second Seder	Candle Lighting 8:00 p.m.
<b>Sunday, April 24</b>	<b>Shacharit, Second Day</b>	9:30 a.m.
<b>Thursday, April 28</b>	<b>Mincha, Maariv, Seventh Day</b>	7:15 p.m.
		Candle Lighting 7:25 p.m.
<b>Friday, April 29</b>	<b>Shacharit, Seventh Day</b>	9:30 a.m.
We will honor our Shabbat and Weekly Torah Readers during services		
<b>Friday, April 29</b>	<b>Mincha, Maariv, Eighth Day</b>	7:15 p.m.
		Candle Lighting 7:26 p.m.
<b>Shabbat, April 30</b>	<b>Shacharit, Yizkor, Eighth Day</b>	9:30 a.m.
Yizkor will be recited during services on the Eighth Day. Members of the Congregation will chant Shir HaShirim (Song of Songs) on Shabbat morning, April 30 <sup>th</sup> . (All times reflect Daylight Savings Time)		

### SIYYUM - THE FAST OF THE FIRST BORN

The Torah relates that the first born of the Israelites were spared from the last plague which was visited upon the Egyptians. As an act of gratitude and as a means of reenacting a great event of ancient history, the custom has arisen to have all the Bechorim (first born) fast on Erev Pesach. As a substitute for this fast, Bechorim may participate in some sacred study in the synagogue on the morning before Pesach. Thus, the fast is obviated while the purpose is enhanced. There will be a service and study session **Friday morning, April 22<sup>nd</sup>** beginning at 7:00 AM. The Men's Club will sponsor a light breakfast following services.

**MEMORIAL PLAQUES** – Each year at Selichot, we dedicate plaques in memory of our departed loved ones. This year, Selichot falls on Saturday evening, **September 24<sup>th</sup>**. If you are interested in purchasing a plaque, orders are now being taken in the synagogue office. The plaques are \$450 and the deadline to order is **June 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

5776  
2016

**April**

adar II  
nisan

**KAR-BEN**  
PUBLISHING

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 22 adar II Minyan Breakfast 8am	2 23 adar II Jr Congregation 10:30am  Shmini/ SHABBAT PARAH
3 24 adar II EC Meeting 9:30am RS (Snow Contingency) SH NYC Trip (Lower East Side)  JNN	4 25 adar II SH Board Meeting 8pm	5 26 adar II RS / Chaverim	6 27 adar II	7 28 adar II Taste of Passover 8pm	8 29 adar II	9 1 nisan  Tazria ROSH CHODESH SHABBAT HACHODESH
10 2 nisan MC Meeting 9:15a RS Board Meeting 9:15am Derech Eretz Workshop RS / USY / Kadima Ridotto 4pm MC Man of Year Dinner	11 3 nisan	12 4 nisan RS / Chaverim	13 5 nisan Social Action Meeting 2pm J on Main Event - 7:30 pm Cinema Arts	14 6 nisan Board Meeting 8pm	15 7 nisan	16 8 nisan Hey/Vav Shabbaton 9:30am  Mezuzah SHABBAT HAGADOL
17 9 nisan MITZVAH DAY Blood Drive 9am-3pm RS Model Seder  JNN	18 10 nisan ECC Model Seder	19 11 nisan RS Model Seder	20 12 nisan	21 13 nisan SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ	22 14 nisan Passover Stryum 7am Main Office Closed ECC Closed Thru May 2  FIRST SEDER	23 15 nisan  PASSOVER
24 16 nisan RS Closed Thru May 1  PASSOVER	25 17 nisan ECC Closed  INTERMEDIATE DAY	26 18 nisan ECC Closed RS Closed  INTERMEDIATE DAY	27 19 nisan ECC Closed  INTERMEDIATE DAY	28 20 nisan ECC Closed  INTERMEDIATE DAY	29 21 nisan ECC Closed  PASSOVER	30 22 nisan  PASSOVER YIZKOR

## *Mechirat Chametz*

### *The Selling of Chametz*

Jewish law prohibits the use or legal possession of any Chametz, leaven of any kind, on Passover. In order to be certain that all Chametz has been removed from our possession, Jewish tradition requires us to sell our remaining Chametz to a non-Jew. This Chametz, then, becomes the property of the non-Jew for the duration of Passover and should be set aside in a place in one's home that will be unused during Passover.

The authorization of the right to sell Chametz can be granted to another. If you would like Rabbi Kurshan to sell your Chametz on your behalf, please fill out the form below. In order to symbolize that one is transferring the authority to sell, it is customary to make a token monetary transfer. The money contributed will be used to provide needy families with Passover necessities. If you send a check, please make it out to Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, c/o Huntington Jewish Center.

### **AUTHORIZATION OF PROXY**

**W**hereas according to Jewish Law one is not permitted to maintain or possess Chametz during the Passover holiday, I, the undersigned, hereby authorize Cantor Gordan to sell the Chametz whether it be found in my residence or elsewhere. This Chametz that I wish sold includes every kind of leavened food or liquid whether in separate entities, mixed forms, dishes or utensils. I understand that Cantor Gordan will sell the Chametz for me to a non-Jew for the entire week of Passover and that I shall derive no use or pleasure from it during that time.

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

(City and State) \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THE PROXY TO THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE BY  
THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 21, 2016**

## View from the Director's Chair

by Barbara Axmacher



### The Fear of Flying

I don't like air travel – I never have. Flying in a bird with wings of steel seems more like an oxymoron than a safe method of travel to me! I realized early on I am a keep your feet solidly on the ground kind of gal. So as I sit in this plane on the runway, dreading the ascent into the great unknown (Florida), I take a deep breath and a moment; to pray for a safe trip, to think about the people I love and to reflect on my life; where I am, what I'm doing and how I'm doing it.

March 2016 was my one year anniversary as the Executive Director at HJC. I realized, in a brief crazy moment waiting for takeoff on the tarmac, fists clenched, eyes tightly shut, that my fear of flying was a metaphor about taking this job. A year ago, I was given the controls to take responsibility for piloting our congregation on an upward journey into the unknown. Could I gain the trust of my passengers? Would I be able to fly into uncharted territory and weather any storm? Could I navigate safely and land each effort with my craft intact?

So with my seatbelt firmly fastened, the roar of a turbine engine and a tailwind pushing me forward, I took flight. It has been a year of invaluable learning, wonderful experiences and heartfelt contributions that I hope secure my place in the cockpit. And yes, every so often when a shift in the wind creates that little bit of turbulence, I stay the course and fly right.

I came to realize it is only in flight that you have a birds-eye view of your world; you must rise above the day-to-day landscape so your range of sight is clear; unfettered by things on the ground which may cause you to stumble and fall or block your sightline to the horizon. It is good to be up where the air is clear so I leave my fear . . . behind.

And although I know where the emergency exits are now, I have not flown solo; Rabbi K, Cantor, Maxine & Ilene have been my co-pilots, Debbie, Irma, Danny, Victor & Alex have been my crew and the EC, Board and Congregation the wind beneath my steely wings. With nothing but clear skies ahead, I look forward as together we will soar to new heights.

No Dramamine required.

### HAMANTASHEN THANK YOU

With thanks for the many hours of hard work in the HJC baking hamantashen! Your dedication as volunteers helped to make this another successful Purim fundraiser!

<b>Lesley Delia Stark</b>	<b>Felicia Messing</b>
<b>Bruce Fleiss</b>	<b>Andrea Morris</b>
<b>Donna Fleiss</b>	<b>Jeff Moss</b>
<b>Pam Fleiss</b>	<b>Alexa Rind</b>
<b>Eileen Front</b>	<b>Alice Rosen</b>
<b>Roz Haber</b>	<b>Sarah Saunders</b>
<b>Ellen Kahn</b>	<b>Larry Wagner</b>
<b>Marilyn Klein</b>	

### SCHOLARSHIPS!



### SUMMER 2016 SCHOLARSHIPS

**Donald L. Gordon Israel Scholarship** – This scholarship is awarded to high school juniors and seniors who spend six to eight weeks during the summer in Israel. They tour, learn, and live the Israeli life in a Jewish educational program.

**David S. Rosenman Camp Ramah Scholarship** – This scholarship is awarded to youngsters in grades 4 through 12 who spend either four or eight weeks at Camp Ramah in the Berkshires. This camp is under the auspices of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Applications for both scholarships are available in the HJC Main office and the deadline for submission is April 1, 2016.



### WORLD CLASS PIANO RECITALS

Sun. March 20 at 4: **Saskia Giorgini**, Italian pianist, 1<sup>st</sup> Prize winner of the 2016 Salzburg *Piano Competition*.  
program: Liszt, Mozart,  
Her Schubert.



Sun. April 10 at 4: **Soyeon Kate Lee** Korean-American pianist, 1<sup>st</sup> Prize winner of the 2002 *Naumburg Piano Competition*.



Her program: Schumann, Scriabin, Auerbach

Concerts are held at the HJC, 510 Park Ave., Huntington (near the Cinema). All information: [www.ridotto.org](http://www.ridotto.org)





by Rabbi Kurshan

## Our Communal Journey

In listening recently to some Passover reflections of Rabbi Roly Matalon, the rabbi of Bnai Jeshurun in Manhattan, I was reminded that there are two important holiday cycles within Jewish tradition.

There are two great spiritual journeys that we make each year as Jews. The first is the journey that begins with Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur culminating in Sukkot. It is a journey that we make as individuals. We reflect on the state of our souls. On Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur we examine our shortcomings and imperfections, and ask how we can do better in the

coming year. Then on Sukkot we give thanks that we have been judged mercifully and rejoice in gratitude for the many blessings that fill our lives.

The other great holiday cycle is the one that we will begin in just a couple of weeks on Passover. We retell the story of our people's journey from Egypt toward redemption in Israel, and proclaim the hope that those who still do not know freedom will experience it next year in Jerusalem. This holiday cycle culminates in Shavuot reminding us how we stood at the foot of Mount Sinai as a newly constituted people receiving the Torah that would guide our destiny and weld us together as a Jewish community. The space between these two holidays of Passover and Sukkot is punctuated by Yom HaShoa as we recall one of the darkest times in Jewish history (HJC is hosting the Community Holocaust Memorial Service this year) and Yom HaAtzmaut when we mark the miraculous return of our people in our own generation to the land of Israel. Unlike the holiday cycle at the beginning of the year which we traverse as individuals, this second holiday cycle is the story of the journey we have made as a Jewish community.

Of course these distinctions are not pure. On Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur we confess our wrongdoing as a community and we do not dwell in our Sukkahs alone. Passover includes an individual dimension of ridding our lives of hametz (excess) and recovering what is essential in ourselves. Yet, by and large the journey of the first holiday cycle is an inward one of the soul; the journey of the second set of holidays is an external and communal one recalling our people's history and reminding us of the collective work that we have yet to undertake.

While we can celebrate our accomplishments in past decades of having physically rescued Jews from Russia, the Arab Middle East, and Ethiopia, the communal work of redemption is not yet complete. Perhaps we need to speak more now of spiritual rescue, but Jews in Russia, Eastern Europe, and even in Israel and here in America are seeking to recover a meaningful Judaism that will engage them and link them to their fellow Jews. Moreover there are still many Jews both here and abroad beset by poverty who are in hunger and in need. As part of our Seder liturgy we extend an invitation to them to join us at the Seder, and each of us can ask ourselves who because of emotional or financial need should be with us at our Seder tables this year.

May this be for all of us a meaningful Passover as we retell our communal story. Let us continue to work together so that next year we may dwell in Jerusalem closer to the full realization of our people's redemption. Alisa and I extend our warmest wishes to you for a Chag Kasher v'Sameach.

*This article appeared in the April 2014 edition of the Bulletin.*

## HJC Community News



### CONDOLENCES

Steve Holbreich on the death of his sister, Laurie Wolberg.

### MAZAL TOV

Shelley & Marc Weinberg on the birth of their grandson, Atticus Shepherd Weinberg.

Johanna & Ari Perler on the birth of their daughter, Mia Shaina Perler.

Vicki & Arthur Perler on the birth of their granddaughter, Mia Shaina Perler.

Meira & Alan Lyons on the birth of their sons, Nathaniel David Lyons and Gabriel Reuben Lyons



Religious school students visit the Holocaust museum.



Students prepare for HIHI guests.

# President's Perspective

by Allison Reiver



## Rabbi Neil Kurshan Legacy Fund

It is hard to believe that Spring is here. As I write this in mid-March, the forecast for the day is 75 degrees and sunny. The year is flying by, which means that we are that much closer to saying farewell to Rabbi Kurshan after 31 years of service to our synagogue. Rabbi Kurshan has enhanced our lives and our spiritual connection to Judaism. He has guided us

through our life cycle events, celebrating with us in our joy and comforting us in sickness and loss. He has been our spiritual leader, teacher and friend. One of the finest perks of serving as President has been the ability to work closely with Rabbi Kurshan, and to have his wonderful guidance and insight.

In honor of Rabbi Kurshan's commitment to HJC, the Rabbi Neil Kurshan Legacy Fund has been established to help sustain his vision and values by ensuring that HJC remains a warm, inclusive, and nurturing community. It will enable us to reinforce our tradition of excellence in programming and education, and ensure that our building remains a beautiful and sacred space reflecting our community's vision.

During the weekend of June 18-19, we will express our appreciation to Rabbi Kurshan for all he has contributed to our community over the last three decades. There will be many ways for you to participate and express gratitude. One of the most important is to support the Rabbi Neil Kurshan Legacy Fund. All contributions at any level are greatly appreciated. Donations beginning at \$5,000 will be recognized on a beautiful and special plaque designed for this purpose, which will be located in the Kiddush Lounge next to Rabbi Kurshan's portrait. We ask that you support this Fund with a personally meaningful gift as an expression of Rabbi Kurshan's devotion to you individually and all of us collectively.

To make a donation, please visit the website that we have set up for this purpose ([www.hjcn2016.com](http://www.hjcn2016.com)) or you may use the pledge card that was mailed to your home. I look forward to celebrating and honoring with you the legacy of Rabbi Kurshan.



# Sisterhood News

by Donna Fleiss & Miriam Wirchin

## A TASTE OF PASSOVER

Join Sisterhood, Men's Club and the ECC  
on  
THURSDAY, APRIL 7 @ 8PM

## TODAH RABAH

Thank you to Karann Pashkin and Cheryl Berman, our Mishloach Manot co-chairs, and all those who purchased hamantashen for family and friends.  
All the funds raised assist Sisterhood's wonderful programs.

## SPRING 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.

## BQLI WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Please join us as we recognize and celebrate our HJC Sisterhood Woman of Achievement, Felicia Messing. On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Women's League for Conservative Judaism will be sponsoring their 2016 Awards and Dinner Gala at Temple Israel of Great Neck recognizing Felicia as well as other notable women from conservative synagogues in the Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island area.  
Please contact Evelyn Abraham or Ethel Sachs, our Torah Fund co-chairs, for registration information.

**SUPPORT the HJC SISTERHOOD JUDAICA SHOP  
WITH YOUR PURCHASE OF GIFTS  
FOR ALL YOUR PASSOVER AND SIMCHA NEEDS.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Walking Tour of Historic Lower East Side  
**April 4<sup>th</sup>** - Sisterhood Board Meeting @ 8pm  
**April 7<sup>th</sup>** - A Taste of Passover - 8pm  
**May 9<sup>th</sup>** - Sisterhood Board Meeting  
**May 12<sup>th</sup>** - Book Discussion @ 1pm  
*The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks

## Sisterhood Contacts:

Donna Fleiss - [donna.fleiss@gmail.com](mailto:donna.fleiss@gmail.com)  
Miriam Wirchin - [mirm1225@aol.com](mailto:mirm1225@aol.com)

## HJC SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP ...for all your gift and holiday needs

The HJC Sisterhood Gift Shop is ready to assist you with all your Judaica needs for all occasions! Gifts for Bar/Bat Mitzvah, graduation, birthday, holidays, engagement, wedding, baby, and many other occasions! Our items are sold at below market cost, no tax, and all profits go right back to supporting the Sisterhood of HJC!

For more info or to make an appointment, please contact:  
Eileen Berger: [berger4u@optonline.net](mailto:berger4u@optonline.net)/261-2164  
Maxine Fisher: [mirifish@aol.com](mailto:mirifish@aol.com)/757-7455  
Pam Fleiss: [threebearsf@verizon.net](mailto:threebearsf@verizon.net)/549-9629  
Leslie Hantverk: [handl24@aol.com](mailto:handl24@aol.com)/367-1439  
Shari Klaire: [cranky20@aol.com](mailto:cranky20@aol.com)/271-0258  
Andrea Morris: [joliaran@gmail.com](mailto:joliaran@gmail.com)/427-4798



## Women's League Torah Fund

If you made a pledge for the 2016 Campaign, please send a check payable to **Torah Fund** and send to Huntington Jewish Center attention 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. Donations start at \$18. **Please contact Evelyn Abraham or Ethel Sachs for more information and to make your donation.**



## Sisterhood Spring Book Discussion

The Spring Book Discussion will be on **Thursday May 12th** at 1 PM. We will be discussing the ***Secret Chord*** by Geraldine Brooks. A rich and utterly absorbing novel about the life of King David, from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of ***People of the Book*** and ***March***. A copy of the book is available in the HJC Library, local libraries, Barnes and Noble, Book Revue and Amazon.

## Pizza and Purim Z'havah

The Pizza and Purim Z'havah program sponsored by Sisterhood on Sunday, 2/28 was overwhelmingly successful! Many moms and their children participated in a fun hour of preparing their own tray of 12 delicious hamantashen to be baked and enjoyed at home.

Z'havah is a way for younger women to gather and affiliate within their synagogue community. We are looking forward to our next Z'havah event!



# A Taste of Passover



Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM

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

Open to All!  
Volunteers needed to share a recipe,  
demonstrate a dish, bake or cook for tasting...

Please RSVP to  
Evelyn Abraham: [evelyn\\_abraham@optonline.net](mailto:evelyn_abraham@optonline.net) or 631-424-6922

🌸🌸 Gift Shop will be open for your Passover needs 🌸🌸  
🌸 10% discount on select items 🌸

## *Sisterhood of the Huntington Jewish Center*

510 Park Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743

## *Matzah Fund*



Dear Congregant,

For each of us, Passover is a holiday overflowing with memories – seders with our grandparents, relatives and friends; asking the four questions for the first time; a first seder with a new husband or wife; or the first time a loved one was not present. Happy memories and sad merge together at one time as we gather around the seder table during this special Jewish holiday.

The needy in our community, in other Long Island communities, and our men and women in the armed forces also have Passover memories. By supplying them with essentials to celebrate this holiday, their special memories, like our own, will be accompanied by the warmth and beauty of the Passover Seder.

Please be part of this mitzvah, especially this year, by contributing to Sisterhood's Annual Matzah Fund Appeal. Your check can be made payable to the Huntington Jewish Center Sisterhood, sent or delivered to my attention in the synagogue office or payment can be made online at [www.HJCNY.org](http://www.HJCNY.org) – click on Quick Donate and specify Matzah Fund as Passover is right around the corner, Please send in your contribution as soon as possible.

All of us in Sisterhood thank you for your generosity and concern and wish you and your family good health and happiness in this Pesach season.

Sincerely,  
Janet Kushnick  
Cooperation and Community Services





## Liberation

by Hazzan Israel Gordan



Now that it is April and spring is in full bloom, our thoughts naturally turn to Passover. Passover is known in the liturgy as “the season of our liberation.” Rather than just thinking about this season in terms of the weather and its ecological effects, Judaism desires that we turn our hearts and minds to far more serious pursuits and ponder what it means to be a slave and what it means to truly be free. And nowhere is this felt more directly and immediately than during the Passover Seder itself.

This year, the two Passover Seders will be celebrated on Friday and Saturday nights, April 22nd and 23rd. While it may seem a little late, that is because this year is a Jewish leap year (meaning we have two months of Adar), which occurs seven times out of every 19 years to help bring the lunar calendar more in line with our solar calendar. According to the Jewish calendar, Passover is not late; rather, it is perfectly on time.

Each year we must retell the story of the Exodus not as if our ancestors were liberated from Egypt, but as if we ourselves were slaves in Egypt and God brought us out with a strong hand and an outstretched arm. But what does this mean as Jews living in the United States in the 21st century? I believe there are few, or perhaps no, other religious practices that are observed so widely as the seder that also carry such great expectations and the weight of responsibility.

There is often a desire to be authentic in Jewish practice: is my Seder long enough to be substantive? Short enough to remain engaging? Do I do enough in Hebrew to connect it to Jews everywhere? Is enough in English so people understand? Am I following all of the rules and guidelines? Is the conversation lively enough? Is this working for the young and the old, the observant and the un-initiated around the table? And most importantly, when do we eat?

While I have always found the thought of two Seders in a row as a bit much (and a great reason in and of itself to move to Israel), it does provide us the opportunity to try new things on opposite ends of the spectrum. Perhaps our first seder could be mostly in Hebrew while the second one is mostly in English. Maybe the first night remains entirely historical while the second night delves into contemporary topics of slavery and liberation. Or perhaps we could host one night while being hosted another night, just to see how different people do things differently.

It is certainly imperative that we fulfill our obligation to tell the story of our exodus from Egypt. It is also great to use this opportunity to connect with family and friends both near and far. And not just so that we can connect to each other, but so that we can connect to our community, the world at large, and most importantly, to God, in an authentic, meaningful, and purposeful way.

## Religious School Update

by Maxine Fisher

Religious School Administrator

Thinking ahead to next year, we are starting **Religious School registration** on **Tuesday, April 5th**. If you sign up before May 15th you will be entitled to the early bird special which will lock in this past years rates. New rates will kick in on May 16th and after June 7th there will be a \$50 late fee. We are looking forward to a new and exciting year ahead.

So, we have not yet finished this year. What's ahead?

There is no school on April 3rd. Join us on a Sisterhood/men's club walking tour of the lower east side.

**Sunday April 10th** is the Mitzvah Team Derek Eretz Workshop with Dafna Soltes Stein.

On **Saturday, April 16th** we are having the Hey and Vav class Shabbaton followed by a Kiddush luncheon.

**Mitzvah Day is on Sunday, April 17th** at 10:45. We have many opportunities to perform a mitzvah. We will be making blankets for Gurwin, helping in one of our gardens, cleaning the sanctuary, painting the crayons that border the playground, the blood drive and more activities. Please join us .

**No school April 24, 26th** for Passover and on **May 1st** when you can join HJC at the Tulip Festival at Heckscher Park.

Enjoy your families over this Passover.

I wish you all a Zesin Pasach.



### Do A Mitzvah on Mitzvah Day!

HJC Blood Drive in memory of Ethel Tasman Fleiss will be held on Mitzvah Day Sunday, April 17th from 9am-3pm. To schedule your donation please contact :

**Jen Ingber: [jen81rn@gmail.com](mailto:jen81rn@gmail.com)**

**Or**

**Donna Fleiss: [Donna.fleiss@gmail.com](mailto:Donna.fleiss@gmail.com)**



## NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION FEDERATION OF JEWISH MEN'S CLUBS

33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL REGIONAL AWARDS AND DINNER

### Huntington Jewish Center Men's Club Honorees



**Paul Greenstein**  
**Man of the Year**



**Matthew Wertheim**  
**Youth of the Year**

**April 17, 2016 (9th of Nisan, 5776)**  
**Crest Hollow Country Club**

**Honor our Huntington honorees by attending this exciting event and by advertising in the NY Metro Journal.**

**\$95.00 per person**  
**Cocktail Hour Begins at 4:30 pm / Full dinner / Open Bar**  
**Music and Dancing**

We thank you for your support! Donations are tax deductible in accordance with the law.

**Dinner Registration and Ad forms are available online**  
**[wizadjournal.com/nymfjmc2016](http://wizadjournal.com/nymfjmc2016)**

**NEED HELP? HAVE QUESTIONS?**

**Contact Ofer Rind at [hjcmcpres@gmail.com](mailto:hjcmcpres@gmail.com) or [info@nymfjmc.org](mailto:info@nymfjmc.org)**



New York Metro Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs  
Celebrate our 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chavayrim Kol Israel

### **Man of the Year and Youth Awards Dinner**

We will Have Music and Dancing for your enjoyment

**April 17th, 2016** @ Crest Hollow Country Club  
8325 Jericho Turnpike, Woodbury, NY

Sunday evening 4:30 - 9:30pm - Cocktail hour begins at 4:30 pm

**ALL DINNER Reservations** must be made on-line by **April 8, 2016**.

The cost for the evening will be **\$95 per person**, to be paid in advance.

Cocktail Hour, Open Bar, Sit-down Dinner

**Honoring**

**Huntington Jewish Center Men's Club**

**Man of the Year – Paul Greenstein**

**Youth of the Year – Matthew Wertheim**

**Rate options for journal ads**

<b>Premium Pages:</b> Gold Page	\$1,000 (Includes three free Dinner Tickets)
Silver Page	\$750 (Includes two free Dinner Tickets)
Bronze Page	\$500 (Includes one free Dinner Ticket)

<b>Standard Pages:</b> Full Page.....	\$300	½ Page.....	\$200	¼ Page.....	\$150
1/8 Page.....	\$100	Boosters.....	\$75 (name and a few words)		
Supporter.....	\$25 (name listed only)				

**ADS MUST BE SUBMITTED W/ FULL PAYMENT by April 3, 2016 to be included in the Journal**  
Ads submitted after 4/03/16 will be subject to a 20% price surcharge and will be placed as an addendum to the Journal

All ads must be accompanied by payment in order to appear in the Journal.

**ALL TICKET RESERVATIONS AND JOURNAL ADS MUST BE MADE ONLINE.**

PLEASE GO TO THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE TO PURCHASE:

**[wizadjournal.com/nymfjmc2016](http://wizadjournal.com/nymfjmc2016)**

We thank you for your support! Donations are tax deductible in accordance with the law.

**QUESTIONS?? CONTACT:**

Offer Rind at [hjcmcpres@gmail.com](mailto:hjcmcpres@gmail.com) or [info@nymfjmc.org](mailto:info@nymfjmc.org)

Dinner is Glatt Kosher. Men are requested to wear Yamulkes and dress in Business attire



**HJC's Mitzvah Day**  
**COME DO A MITZVAH!**



**Sunday, April 17, 2016**

Religious School Gathering 10:30-11:30am Note time change

Join **Family Life, Men's Club, Sisterhood & Social Action**, for a day of  
**Mitzvah-in-ACTION!**

The following Mitzvah-in-action projects will take place on HJC grounds on  
March 22nd

- \* HJC Outreach Garden
- \* JNN (Jewish Nutrition Network) packaging food
- \* Help clean up the HJC property
- \* Blankets to Gurwin residents
- \* Help clean sanctuary

Please join your children: Gan/Alef and Bet come at 10:30 to participate in the JNN  
Plus many more opportunities

Gimel, Daled and Mitzvah Team start at 10:30

The entire school meets at 11:30 to hear about the Mitzvot everyone participated in.

The Hey & Vav classes have their Founder's Day workshop 9:00 – 11:00 am

**Any questions? Email Blair at [rnoah@hjcny.org](mailto:rnoah@hjcny.org)**

# Early Childhood News

by Ilene Brown



## Second Annual ECC and Religious School Mixer

"I never did anything alone. Whatever was accomplished in this country was accomplished collectively." ~Golda Meir

Earlier this month we had our second annual ECC and Religious School Mixer. It is truly one of my favorite events of the year. The older kids from the religious school spent an hour with the younger children from the ECC.

They worked together on puzzles, played board games, built and created inventions from tinker toys and made crafts together. One of my favorite activities is the reading corner, where the older kids read P.J. Library books to the little ones. It is so amazing to stand back and watch the older children engage the younger ones. The ECC children had never met the older children from the religious school, yet there was an instant connection as if they had known each other for years. The religious school kids were so warm, welcoming and engaging. They took the younger ECC under their wings and all had a blast. The parents, teachers, Maxine and I stood back and watched with great pleasure. The Cantor helped unite all of us through music. We sat in a very large circle and sang many fun and familiar songs. For the finale, Cantor Gordan had everyone stand up and we marched around the Family Life room while singing. This event continues to familiarize the ECC families with our outstanding religious school and its wonderful staff and students.



### 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**



Huntington Jewish Center

Summer Adventure 2016

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

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

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

Huntington Jewish Center offers a flexible schedule and has early / late care options. Any questions please call 631-425-0525

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Ilene Brown

Program Director





# 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***



## Bill Yelen

I thoroughly enjoyed my interview with Bill Yelen. Bill is deeply appreciative of the many ways our HJC community has embraced him; and it was just a joy listening to him explain it.

Bill, one of our newest members, joined HJC in July 2015 at the ripe young age of 68. His gateway to HJC was our morning minyan, which he started attending just a few months earlier to say Kaddish for his mother who had recently passed away. When this long-time resident of our neighborhood went “minyan shopping,” he felt most comfortable and welcomed at HJC. It was not his intention to join a synagogue, but rather simply to find a place to say Kaddish, which he knew would have pleased his mother. He was not thinking how much reciting Kaddish would benefit him.

Bill moved his aging mother, Helen Yelen, to his home in 2012 from Bayside, Queens, experiencing it more as a privilege than an obligation. She continued to lead a full and fairly independent life in Huntington. As her health declined, Bill became her sole care giver. During the final 3-4 months of her life, following a sudden diagnosis of a rare and aggressive cancer, Bill had the assistance of hospice in the home. His mother passed away in the spring of 2015, shortly before her 98th birthday. Her passing left a void in Bill’s life. Joining a community of other mourners and devoted minyan attendees whose presence in the morning made it possible for the mourners to recite Kaddish, provided Bill with the sense that he was not alone. He felt deeply that in the Leif chapel at HJC, he was engaged with God as well as kind, caring people who understood his loss. This experience reawakened in Bill his Jewish feelings that had been dormant for many years. Our psychologically sound traditions had served him well and he became, as he described it, “a sponge” for all HJC has to offer.

Bill’s mother had been raised in a traditional home but for reasons of her own, she did not raise her three boys in her Orthodox tradition. Bill spent his earliest years in Brooklyn, his middle childhood and early teens in Bellerose, Queens, and his high school years in Kings Point, Great Neck. Although he became a Bar Mitzvah at Bellerose Jewish Center, voluntarily attended Hebrew high school, did graduate work in psychology at Yeshiva University, and was involved at the JCC in Commack, once he left home as a young man, Bill did not re-engage in synagogue life. Bill explains that among the things holding him back from getting involved in synagogue life, aside from his busy schedule as a psychotherapist and administrator of various mental health programs, including a plate full of volunteer work in his field, was that as a bachelor he did not feel completely comfortable joining a synagogue because “that was for families.” Still a bachelor, and still engaged in his profession, Bill has realized that synagogue life at HJC is not just for families; there is a real place for him here and he wants to be an involved member of our HJC community.

Since joining HJC, Bill has embraced us just as we have embraced him. He participates in services every Shabbat morning, is conscious of practicing his Hebrew skills, and attends many social events such as Men’s Club, the Progressive Dinner, Friday Night Live and Movie night. A self-described committed child of the 60’s (whose plans to join the Peace Corp were foiled at the last minute by his decision to complete graduate school), Bill is drawn to the opportunity to be of service through the mission of our Social Action committee. He has even volunteered to cover the unpopular graveyard shift for HIHI and is eager to assist home-bound congregants with brief visits and rides to appointments.

Bill’s connection with HJC is a testament to the truth in our traditions and the power of the special warmth of our community. We are as fortunate to have found Bill, as he is grateful to have found in HJC a new spiritual home.

*Compiled by Lesley DeLia–Stark and Bill Yelen*



# Donations

צדקה

## GENERAL FUND

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Edith Rothschild, mother of Debbie Cadel.  
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Muriel Cadel, mother of Bill Cadel.  
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the engagement of Meryl, daughter of Mark & Janet Zimmerman, to Trey Rintala.  
Ken Gold in memory of Rubin Gold at yahrzeit.  
Bea Pedowicz in memory of Ely Rencoff at yahrzeit.  
Ethel Schwartz-Bock in memory of William M. Schwartz at yahrzeit.  
Gwen Goldstein in memory of Sadie Paternostro at yahrzeit.  
Selma Greenstein in memory of Herman Greenstein at yahrzeit.  
Selma Greenstein in memory of Max Bass at yahrzeit.  
Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in memory of Seymour Kuppersmith at yahrzeit.  
Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in memory of Lawrence Meshover at yahrzeit.  
Elaine & Burt Epstein in memory of Samuel Epstein at yahrzeit.  
Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in memory of Ken Greenberg, son-in-law of Gloria Safran.  
Marsha Perlmutter Kalina wishing a speedy recovery to Debbie Rosenkrantz.  
Allison & Mitchell Reiver in memory of Paula Reiver at yahrzeit.  
Vicki & Arthur Perler in memory of Shirley Perler at yahrzeit.  
Liz & Steve Holbreich in honor of the birth of Atticus Shepherd Weinberg, grandson of Shelley & Marc Weinberg.  
Carol & Marshall Adelstein in memory of Anna Adelstein at yahrzeit.  
Helga & Albert Kramer in memory of Norma Levy, mother of Andy Levy.  
Ian Winkler in memory of Roslyn Winkler at yahrzeit.  
Arnold, Victoria & Daniel Schwartz in memory of Daniel Sol Schwartz at yahrzeit.  
Elliot Waldman in memory of Salig Waldman at yahrzeit.  
Elliot Waldman in memory of Susie Waldman at yahrzeit.  
Liz & Steve Holbreich in memory of Mortimer Holbreich at yahrzeit.  
Susan & Alvin Wichard in memory of Sonia Wichard at yahrzeit.  
Susan & Alvin Wichard in memory of Gary Wichard at yahrzeit.  
Wendy & Joseph Glassman in memory of Selma Glassman at yahrzeit.  
Janet Ganes in memory of Jack Lust at yahrzeit.

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Barbara Gross in memory of Francine & Donald Gross.  
Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Shalva, granddaughter of Rabbi Neil & Alisa Rubin Kurshan.  
Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Mia Shaina Perler, daughter of Johanna & Ari Perler and granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

## ARK & PULPIT FUND

Joan Blank in memory of Louis Galowitz at yahrzeit.

## BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Marjorie S. Maltin in memory of Sylvia Solomon at yahrzeit.  
Syd Schlesinger in memory of Hyman Sudran at yahrzeit.

## CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Bill Yelen & family in appreciation of Cantor Gordan officiating at the unveiling of his mother, Helen Yelen.  
Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the engagement of Meryl, daughter of Janet & Mark Zimmerman, to Trey Rintala.

## DAILY MINYAN FUND

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Martin D. Rencoff at yahrzeit.  
Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Ella, granddaughter of Vicki & Tom Rosen.  
Marsha Perlmutter Kalina wishing a speedy recovery to Lester Fox.  
Bill Yelen upon completion of kaddish for his mother, Helen Yelen.  
Vicki & Tom Rosen honor of the birth of Mia Shaina Perler, daughter of Johanna & Ari Perler and granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.  
Vicki & Tom Rosen wishing a speedy recovery to David Rosen.  
Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Laurie Wolberg, sister of Steve Holbreich.

## DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Atticus Shepherd Weinberg, grandson of Shelley & Marc Weinberg.  
Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Mia Shaina Perler, daughter of Johanna & Ari Perler and granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND

Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the birth of Mia Shaina Perler, daughter of Johanna & Ari Perler and granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

## PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Yolanda Barfus in memory of Jerome Barfus at yahrzeit.  
Joan Blank in memory of Robert Blank at yahrzeit.

## SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Bill Yelen  
Jennifer & Scott Ingber in memory of Robert David Bring at yahrzeit.  
Jennifer & Scott Ingber in memory of Muriel Cadel, mother of Bill Cadel.  
Jennifer & Scott Ingber in memory of Edith Rothschild, mother of Debbie Cadel.

# Donations צדקה

Jennifer & Scott Ingber wishing a speedy recovery to Debbie Rosenkrantz.

Ellen Kahn in memory of Abraham Levy at yahrzeit.

Ellen Kahn in memory of Richard Kahn at yahrzeit.

Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Gilla Rubin at yahrzeit.

Susi Susskind in memory of Muriel Cadel, mother of Bill Cadel.  
Bill Yelen

Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the upcoming marriage of Michael, son of Leslie & Jack Rubin, to Shoshana Roberts.

Gloria Safran wishing a speedy recovery to Eve Siegel.

Gloria Safran in memory of Norma Levy, mother of Andy Levy.

Gloria Safran in memory of Muriel Cadel, mother of Bill Cadel.

Gloria Safran in memory of Edith Rothschild, mother of Debbie Cadel.

## Seeking New Youth Director

*Do you know someone who likes to work with children and teens?*

The HJC is looking for a new Youth Group Director to lead activities for children and teens, and increase youth participation. This person should have a strong knowledge of Jewish holidays, culture and values, and the desire to pass these values on to the youth in our community. Experience with USY considered a plus.

Job would begin in September 2016 and run through the school year. Activities take place twice monthly on Tuesday evenings from 6:15-7:30 and three hours on Sunday evening. This is a paid position. I

If you know of someone who might be interested, please have them e-mail a cover letter and resume to **Maxine Fisher at MFisher@hjcny.org**.

## JNN News

The Jewish Nutritional Network needs volunteers to deliver meals to several locations in our area. We are preparing meals for three motels, two after school programs to students who's families are at risk and a Huntington homeless shelter. The volunteers of the JNN prepare 300 meals every Sunday. Please consider delivering to one of these locations and or volunteering in the kitchen. We meet every Sunday in the dairy kitchen at 8:30am.

Please contact **Rob Fisher**  
Email: [rfish51@aol.com](mailto:rfish51@aol.com)

## SHMA Bedtime Workshop





# J ON MAIN

April  
13

7:30 pm  
423 Park Avenue  
Huntington

Cinema Arts Center



The Huntington Jewish Center  
brings a special  
**interfaith initiative**  
to Huntington!

Mingle, explore, & experience  
interfaith life all within the  
Huntington community!  
Now in our 2nd year, we  
are proud to present  
our exciting new  
series of family  
fun and adult  
events. Please  
join us!



## JUST EAT IT.

A food waste story

"POWERFUL"



"Shocking... thought provoking  
inspired."



## JUST EAT IT: A Food Waste Story

Panel Discussion with Randi Shubin Dresner, President & CEO,  
Island Harvest, Peggy Boyd, VP Community Services, Family Service  
League, Dorian Stern, Director of Development, (INN) Interfaith Nutrition  
Network, Rabbi Tracy Kaplowicz, Solomon Schechter

Cost: \$5 Members, \$10 Public  
Includes  
Kosher Dessert Reception



Please bring a non-perishable food item for  
the Island Harvest  
Donation Bin

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## HJC Bulletin April 2016

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### Light A Candle, Preserve A Memory

**Yom HaShoah**, Holocaust Remembrance Day, will be observed this year at sundown on the 27<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, 5776, corresponding to **May 4, 2016**.



HaShoah candles, a moving Religious School field trip to the Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center of Nassau County (pictured).

Please join with your fellow congregants and members of Jewish communities all over America on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> to light a Yellow Candle in memory of a victim of the Holocaust, and please consider supporting our educational efforts. Place the candle in your window, a single light against the darkness, as a tangible statement to **Never Forget!**

To help us commemorate this day, our Men's Club, in cooperation with the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, will again be delivering a special yellow yahrzeit candle, made in Israel, to each home in our community.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year that we have participated in the FJMC Yellow Candle™ program. Proceeds raised by this effort are already being used to support Holocaust education. Last month, HJC Men's Club was proud to wholly fund, through last year's sale of Yom

