

HJC Bulletin

November 2016

Tishri/Cheshvan 5776

# HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER NEWS COMMUNITY CONNECTION



# **HJC Sisterhood**

presents

A White House Photo Tour and Floral Seminar
with

Frank Lazzaro







# Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm All are invited!

Frank Lazzaro, former freelance White House Holiday and State Dinner decorator during the Ford, Carter and Reagan administrations, and author of "Memoirs of Decorating My White House" presents a photo tourof the White House and decorating tips on floral designs fit for a White House table. Mr. Lazzaro will share his experiences and historic memories of working at our nation's elegant house and then create a silk White House replica floral centerpiece which will be raffled off to a lucky winner!

RSVP by 11/8/16 Evelyn Abraham at 631-424-6922/evelyn\_abraham@optonline.net Miriam Wirchin at 631-427-6513/mirm1225@aol.com Please join us and share a very special evening!



# Bar Mitzvah November



# **Max Stein**

Son of Debbie and David Stein

Max is an eighth grade honor roll student at Elwood Middle School. Max participates in the Elwood Middle School Soccer and Track Teams, and plays saxophone for the school band. Max also plays travel soccer for his team Commack Fire.

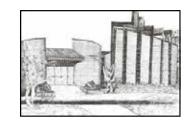
In his spare time, Max enjoys spending time laughing with friends, researching information, and watching sports on television.

Max has been attending HJC since the age of two. He has formed lasting relationships with HJC members. Max is excited to experience his Bar Mitzvah with family, school friends, soccer friends and the many HJC congregants he has been blessed to know.

Max - We are so proud of you and love you very much!

Mom, Dad and Ilyssa





Allison Reiver

*President* **427-1089** 

Maxine Fisher
Religious School Administrator

427-1157 ext. 14

Barbara Axmacher

Executive Director

427-1089, ext 23

Ellen Steinberg, Secretary

William Wertheim, Admin. V.P.

#### Rabbi David Barnett,

Interim Rabbi 423-5355

Neil Kurshan, Rabbi Emeritus

# Israel Gordan, Hazzan,

Director, Synogagogue Programming and Religious School Innovation

427-1089, ext. 22

#### Ilene Brown

Director, Early Childhood Center

425-1089, ext 15

# **HJC Board of Trustees/2016-2017**

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**HJC Committee Chairpersons** 

Bulletin	Kim Willen				
Calendar	Gwen Goldstein				
Cemetery	Louis Walsdorf				
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Congregational Dinners					
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Greeters					
High Holiday Honors	Joel Kuppersmith				
Israel/Ramah Scholarships					
Israel Committee	Scott Ingber				
Jewish Theological Seminary	Mitch Pashkin				
Kol Nidre Appeal	Walter and Elaine Kleinmann				
MembershipTrac					
Men's Club	Ofer Rind				
Religious School Board	Sheri Bram & Felicia Messing				
Ritual	Andrea Smoller				
Selichot Lecture					
Sisterhood	Donna Fleiss & Miriam Wirchin				
Social Action					
Special Arrangements	Vered Cole & David Walsdorf				
Sunshine	Leslie Hantverk				
Theater Develpment	Arthur Perler				
Technology					
Tree of Life	Tom Rosen				
UJA	Scott Ingber				
Webmaster	Arthur Perler				
Youth					

Youth Advisor......Raquel Sosnovich

5777 2016

# November

# tishri cheshvan



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		30 tishri	2 1 cheshvan	3 2 cheshvan	4 3 cheshvan	5 4 cheshvan
		UJA Suffolk Signature Event - 6pm			Minyan Breakfast - 8 am sponsored by Morris Lagnado	Bar Mitzvah - 9:30 am Max Stein
		RS/Chaverim ROSH CHODESH	ROSH CHODESH	SH Rummage Sale Drop-Off	SH Rummage Sale Drop-Off	Noach
6 5 cheshvan	7 6 cheshvan	7 cheshvan	9 8 cheshvan	10 9 cheshvan	11 10 cheshvan	12 11 cheshvan
JNN RS SH Rummage Sale	SH Rummage Sale	ECC Closed		SH Program - White House Floral	ECC Closed -Professional Dev Day - 9 am FNL VETERANS DAY	Jr Cong - 10:30 am
	EC Meeting - 7:30 pm	RS / Chaverim (MT)  ELECTION DAY		Design - 8pm	CANADIAN REMEMBRANCE DAY	Lech Lecha
13 12 cheshvan	14 13 cheshvan	15 14 cheshvan	16 15 cheshvan	17 <sup>16 cheshvan</sup>	18 17 cheshvan	19 18 cheshvan
JNN RS Closed SH Museum Tour - NYC	SH Board Meeting - 8 pm	Board Meeting - 8 pm RS / Chaverim (MT)	Social Action Meeting - 2pm	SH Book Discussion - 1 pm 2nd Annual Melting Pot Comedy Hour - 8 pm	ECC/RS Family Connect Shabbat - 5 pm	Jr Cong - 10:30 am Vayera
20 <sup>19 cheshvan</sup>	21 <sup>20 cheshvan</sup>	22 <sup>21 cheshvan</sup>	23 <sup>22 cheshvan</sup>	24 <sup>23 cheshvan</sup>	25 <sup>24 cheshvan</sup>	26 <sup>25 cheshvan</sup>
JNN RS RS Board Mtg - 9:15 am MC Meeting - 9:45 am Ridotto - 4 pm Community Thanksgiving		RS		ECC / Main Office Closed	ECC / Main Office Closed	Auf Ruf Elie Perler & Lauren Schachter
26 cheshvan	27 cheshvan	28 cheshvan	29 cheshvan	THANKSGIVING DAY		Chaye Sarah
JNN RS Closed	28	29 20 CHESHVOIT	30			
		RS / Chaverim (MT)				



# From Rabbi Barnett

Interim Rabbi



# **Grow Gratitude**

I admit to using a writer's trick to initially grab your attention! As you know, I love exploring the nuances and hidden meanings in words and phrases... usually, of course, when we think of "growing" something, we think of plants or vegetables, such as tomatoes, corn, zucchini, etc. We don't

usually think of applying the meaning to an emotion. However, if we substitute the word "cultivate" for "grow", then a variety of other nuances come to the fore. Cultivation implies more than just planting something in the ground and praying for it to grow all by itself. It implies, if you think about it, an entire set of accompanying activities and tasks which assist the natural process of growth in the ground – watering, weeding, fertilizing, and giving protection from insects and predators, as a minimum.

The word cultivation though, can more readily be applied to the cultivation of a certain outlook, spirit, or emotion. As with the analogy in nature, it can encompass its own set of accompanying outlooks, dispositions, and practices. Since for starters, the emotion of gratitude is central to this month's celebration of Thanksgiving, which in our case was preceded by our Jewish holiday of gratitude, Sukkot, some of the central ideas involving this emotion are worth exploring. When we add to that idea the realization that the emotion of gratitude is embodied in the Bible itself and in all of our liturgy as a central pillar to our entire religious outlook, this becomes even more important to contemplate, appreciate, and cultivate within us.

It is not without coincidence that the very first prayer said in the morning, when just being aware that one is making the transition from a sleeping state to one in which we are aware of our bodies, our consciousness, and our continuing survival and existence, is the "modeh ani" prayer. As translated in our daily prayer book, this reads: "I am grateful to You, living, enduring Sovereign, for restoring my soul to me in compassion. You are faithful beyond measure." What a truly wonderful and beautiful prayer! To be able to go to sleep, regenerate the manifold processes and forces allowing our bodies to function, and then to awaken, and be able to be

# **HJC Community News**



# **MAZAL TOV**

Marge & Larry Maltin announce the birth of their grandson, Miles Sebastion Saltiel.

Renda Rosenblatt announces the engagement of Tiphanie, daughter of Renda and Ken z"l Rosenblatt, to Stephen Shoemaker.

Kevin and Amy Younai announce the birth of their son, Levi Younai.

# CONDOLENCES

Myra Marsh on the death of her husband, Marvin Marsh.

Andrea Dubow on the death of her sister, Jill Kimmel.

# **NEW MEMBERS**

Lori Sklar of Centerport

Saul & Sari Sternschein of Huntington and their children: Leo, age 6 and Emma, age 5.

Joseph & Jordana Levey of Greenlawn and their daughter, Skylar, age 2.

# **President's Perspective**

by Allison Reiver



Once again this year, the High Holidays were wonderful at HJC. So many people helped contribute to the success, and they each deserve a special Yasher Koach. Thank vou first and foremost to Rabbi Barnett and Cantor Gordan for engaging our spirit and beautifully guiding us through the holidays. Barbara Axmacher oversaw virtually every

aspect of our High Holidays, and did so wonderfully. If you had a chance to stop by the office during the last month, you saw our amazing office staff of Debbie Rosenkrantz and Irma Mile hard at work to ensure that things ran smoothly. Danny Carillo-Masa, Victor Salinas, Alex Salinas, our dedicated custodial staff, worked long hours to spruce up our building. Our Executive Committee and Board of Trustees once again devoted their time and energy to greet us and serve as ambassadors to our community. Below you will see the many different jobs that are involved in the holidays. Kol Hakavod to our committed volunteers and staff for making this a wonderful Yamim Tovim for HJC.

**Arranging the High Holiday Honors**: Joel Kuppersmith and Ofer Rind

**Leading the Kol Nidre Appeal**: Elaine and Walter Kleinmann

**Leading/participating in services**: Rabbi Barnett, Cantor Gordan, Joel Kuppersmith, Lester Fox, Paul Greenstein, Jack Rubin, Jay Steinberg, Jay Weiss, Mark Zimmerman, Billy Wertheim, Lauren Chait, Alexa Rind, Miriam Koas, Ben Messing, Yair Koas **Shofar Blowing**: Matt Raskin

Arranging security: The Security Committee led by Alan Kreigstein

Preparing the Book of Remembrance: Debbie Rosenkrantz

Organizing Babysitting: Sisterhood/Janet Kushnick

Preparing apples and honey for the children: Sisterhood/ Felicia Messing, Phyllis Levy, Amira Garbus, Daniel Cohen, Dori and Josh Hermann, Heather Hermann, Richard Rubinstein

Preparing honey cake and juice for the congregation: Sisterhood/Sarah Saunders, Joni

Brenner Silver-polishing: Leslie DiLea Stark, Donna Fleiss,

Janet Kushnick, Marilyn Klein, Felicia Messing, Sarah Saunders, Tyna Strenger

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

Overseeing the audio system: Bruce Fleiss

Arranging greeters: Maxine Fisher

**Arranging participation of Martyrology readers:** Joel Kuppersmith, Donna Fleiss, Miriam Wirchin **Sponsoring flowers on the Bimah:** Sisterhood (Rosh Hashanah), Judy Leopold and Alan Orloff (Yom Kippur)

Planning and coordinating the Selichot Program:

Cantor Gordan, Rabbi Barnett

**Sponsoring the Selichot Dessert Reception:** 

Organizing the Rosh Hashanah Honey Fundraiser: Leslie Hantverk, Miriam Wirchin

Organizing the memorial plaques: Paul Greenstein **Preparing the Kol Nidre Board**: Karann Pashkin Setting up Break Fast: Sylvia Brass

Preparing the Congregational New Year's Card: Andrea Forman Morris

Leading the Healing Service: Dafna Soltes Stein Leading Children's services: Jessica Winkler **Leading Junior Congregation**: Lea Winkler **Helping with mailings**: Evelyn Abraham, Tom and Vicki Rosen

Preparing Membership packets: Elaine Kleinmann, Tracy Kaplowitz

Organizing the Sukkah Fundraiser: Alan

Kreigstein, Ofer Rind

Building the Sukkah: Men's Club

Ordering the Lulav and Etrog: Sheri Bram **Decorating the Sukkah**: Sisterhood/Donna Fleiss,

Evelvn Abraham

Organizing the Simchat Torah luncheon: Sylvia

Brass, Tyna Strenger, Maxine Fisher



# View from the Director's Chair by Barbara Axmacher





# The Important Things In Life - Author Unknown

A philosophy professor stood before his class with some items on the table in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks, about 2 inches in

diameter.

He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles, of course, rolled into the open areas between the rocks.

He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up the remaining open areas of the jar.

He then asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "Yes."

"Now," said the professor, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The rocks are the important things – your family, your partner, your health, your children – things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter – like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else, the small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take your partner out dancing. There will always be time to go to work, clean the house, give a dinner party, or fix the disposal."

"Take care of the rocks first – the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

# **MEMBERSHIP**

It's not too late to pay your Sisterhood membership dues!
\$45 for regular membership/\$40 for Z'havah
\$30 for senior membership

New members to HJC receive a complimentary
Sisterhood membership for their first year.

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

# FALL IS A GOOD TIME TO CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSETS!

Bring your gently used and new clothing as well as baby items, toys, books, shoes and household items to HJC for the Fall Rummage Sale! Drop off November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Marlene Hummel at

mskhummel@aol.com/631-673-6144 to volunteer.

# WHITE HOUSE PHOTO TOUR and FLORAL SEMINAR

Join us as a former freelance White House floral decorator shares his experiences and historic memories and floral decorating tips fit for a White House table.

A silk centerpiece will be raffled off to one lucky winner!

Thanks to all who participated in our Z'havah Pizza and Sukkah Decorating program and for beautifying our HJC sukkah!

# **Upcoming Events**

November 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> - Drop off dates for Fall Rummage Sale November 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> - Rummage Sale – Volunteers needed! November 10<sup>th</sup> - White House Photo Tour & Floral Seminar

**November 13**<sup>th</sup> - Trip to Jewish Museum

November 17<sup>th</sup> - Book Discussion @ 1pm

A Remarkable Kindness by Diane Bletter

November 21<sup>st</sup> - Sisterhood Board Meeting

**December 1st** - Rosh Chodesh Program

**December 8**<sup>th</sup> - Challah Decorating Program

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

Miriam Wirchin - mirm1225@aol.com

Sisterhood Contacts: Donna Fleiss - donna.fleiss@gmail.com

# Women's League Torah Fund

To commemorate the 100th year of Women's League for Conservative Judaism and the 75th year of the Torah Fund Campaign, the Torah Fund pin for 5777 features the wheat and olive branches. We celebrate women's achievements through creativity- the fruit of her hands in the family, workplace, home, synagogue and community.

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, Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano and the Zacharias Frankel College in Potsdam, Germany, Donations start at \$18. Please send a check payable to Torah Fund and send to Huntington Jewish Center attention Torah Fund. If you would like to receive the 5777 Torah Fund pin as our gift to you for your generous support, please contact Evelyn Abraham or Ethel Sachs for more information.

# Torah Fund Pin for 5777 (2016-2017)



P'ri yadehah, which means the fruit of her hands, is a phrase from the beloved Eishet Chayil prayer, taken from the Book of Proverbs (31:31).

# **HJC Babysitters:**

Grace Willen home:631-754-5865

 Rachel Moss
 cell: 631-944-1420

 Noah Morris
 cell: 631-427-4798

 Ilyssa Stein
 home:631-754-2729

cell 631-678-1654

cell: 631-871-1477

Babysitters - email your current information to put here!

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

# A REMARKABLE KINDNESS a novel Diana Bletter

# **Fall Book Discussion**

Join us for coffee/tea and dessert for the Sister-hood Fall Book Discussion on Thursday November 17th at 1 PM in the HJC Library. Ellen Kahn will be leading the discussion.

A Remarkable Kindness by Diane Bletter is the selection for our Fall Book Discussion. 'It's 2006 in a seaside village in Israel, where a war is brewing. Lauren, Emily, Aviva and Rachel, four memorable women from different backgrounds, are drawn to the village. The women forge a friendship that sustains them as they come to terms with love and loss, and the outbreak of war. Their intimate bond is strengthened by their participation in

a traditional ritual that closes the circle of life. As their lives are slowly transformed, each finds unexpected strength and resilience. Copies of the book are available on Alibris, Half.Com, Amazon and Barnes and Noble websites, at local libraries and a copy is in the HJC Library.

Please RSVP to Evelyn Abraham at 631 424-6922 or evelyn\_abraham@opton-line.net by 11/15/2016.

# Saving a Life through Organ Donation and Transplantation



Give thanks. Give life.

National Donor Sabbath is observed annually on Friday through Sunday two weekends before Thanksgiving (November 11th -13th, 2016). During this three-day observance, faith leaders, donor families, transplant recipients, and donation and transplantation professionals join forces to increase awareness of the need for lifesaving organ, tissue, and eye donation. According to Jewish law, transplantation is allowed, and even encouraged, if it does not hasten death, if it is performed with respect for the body, and if body parts not used for transplantation are buried. The highest human value in Jewish philosophy is to emulate God, which can be done through acts of love, compassion, and concern, including organ donation and transplantation. Show compassion and love to your brothers and sisters by joining the New York State Donate Life Organ and Tissue Donor Registry. You can find out more information about the lifesaving gifts passed to others through organ, eye and tissue donation by visiting

www.donatelifenewyork.com or contacting Miriam Eckstein-Koas at miribiri18@gmail.com



# Yom Kippur...Again

by Hazzan Israel Gordan



Why do we come back to Yom Kippur services year after year?

As Brene Brown says in her book, Daring Greatly, "connection is why we're here." The need to connect with others is encoded in our DNA—it is what makes us whole and wholehearted. It gives our lives purpose, and without connection, there is pain.

When we come together for the Kol Nidre service and pray as a community, we can

feel—deeply—this connection. These are crazy times that we are living in, but they have always been crazy times. When so much going on outside of these walls calls into question what we thought were sacred American values of honesty and decency, or Jewish values of welcoming the stranger and caring for the poor, or when public discourse has become not only uncivil, but downright vulgar, we remember that religion is and always will be a countercultural force. Despite the vicissitudes that threaten the core of who we are and what we believe, Judaism reminds us: no. We are stronger together. Our lives are infinitely more fulfilling and our world a safer and better place when we are part of a holy community.

How do we do this, then? If connection is what keeps us showing up, where do we find it?

To be sure, ours is a logogenic tradition, meaning that the words are the focus. When reading Torah, the text is more important than the trop; when davening, the liturgy is more important than the nusach. So one way we connect is through language—engaging in text study and prayer and feeling moved by the words on the page. But—as Henry Wadsworth Longfellow stated, "Music is the universal language of mankind." For me, and I imagine for many of you as well, it is the melody that is paramount, here. While what we're saying is certainly important, how we say it is equally so. Music, in this sense, is the catalyst for connection. It's the sound of the prayer and the emotions and memories it evokes that is so transcendent.

I believe there are a couple reasons for this. First, embedded in the music is an essential truth about Judaism and Jewish life. The Kol Nidre is both haunting and majestic, both mournful and triumphant. In embraces these paradoxes and hearkens our tradition's impulse to live in the grey—to appreciate struggle, to recognize beauty in darkness, and to feel inspired to continue our journeys without the illusion of easy answers. In Judaism, we are impelled to find meaning in the search and taught to value complexity as much as, or perhaps more so, than the resolution. As we begin a new year together, we are reminded of this ever-present tension. We are encouraged to wrestle with the tradition and find strength and truth in the process.

# **Religious School Update**

by Maxine Fisher Religious School Administrator

Now that we are past the Jewish Holidays and we are in the new year, we can move on with Religious School. We only had three school days in October so now we are ready to move forward.

Our first of six Vav Family Workshops start on **November 6th** with Rabbi Barnett.

**November 11th** is the first Friday Night Live. If you never attended a FNL, you are really missing a beautiful evening to meet new people, enjoy a lively service and delicious dinner. Your children will help decorate the room and the children eat at a kids table supervised by our teens.

We have two junior Congregations this month on **November 12th and the 19th.** 

No school Veteran's Day weekend Sunday the 13th.

If anyone wants to help with the Chanukah Happening either with the planning or helping out on **December 18th** please let me know.



con't on page 15 page 8

# Early Childhood News by llene Brown

"Why try to explain miracles to your kids when you can just have them plant a garden." ~Robert Brault

I am so excited to write this article about the ECC's new garden. Perhaps some of you have seen the new and beautiful garden on the HJC playground. The ECC owes a debt of gratitude to three incredibly kind and talented HJC members who built this amazing structure. Bruce Fleiss, Jeff Moss, and Larry Wagner worked as a well-oiled team. They sketched out the garden, told me exactly how much wood and soil to order, and completed building the structure in a matter

of a few hours! We are also very grateful to other HJC/ECC members, David Kleet who helped us with the wood, the ECC Parent Association who paid for the wood and soil, and Adam Novick who donated all of the seeds for our garden. I am amazed and so touched by everyone's kindness and generosity to the ECC. This garden would not have been possible without the help and kindness of these truly wonderful people. Please continue to read below to truly understand the education and joy this garden will provide to the children of the ECC.

Since the first day of school the teachers of the 3's and 4's have been talking to their students about this garden. They started with the soil and what comprises good soil, what would they need to do to care for their plantings, and of course what should be planted. The lessons from gardening are infinite. My personal favorite is that it gets the children outside in the fresh air away from the electronics. Social emotional learning occurs, not to mention language and fine motor development. Math and science lessons are a daily part of gardening/planting. For example, predictions, observations, botany, seed germination, measurements, graphing, to name just a few!!! How about nutrition lessons? The children will learn about growing healthy, organic fruits and vegetables. Guess what?? Kids are more likely to eat foods that they have personally grown. Miss Ellice and Miss Jenny, the 3 year old teachers are currently working on an elaborate irrigation system. This system will allow the children to observe how the water travels to the seeds and roots of the plants. Please stay tuned for more information and developments!!







# FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Peaceful \* Musical \* Spirited

Family Friendly Shabbat
FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES IN THE ROUND
CONGREGATIONAL SHABBAT MEAL
Honoring all of our HJC Veterans



# **November 11, 2016**

Come for the service at 6:00 pm Stay for dinner at 7:00 pm

chicken/salmon/beef/vegetarian options
 supervised children's table

\$25/adult, \$10/child 5-12, child under 5 free, \$70 max/family

RSVP to Debbie in HJC office by Monday, November 7,2016 or watch your email to sign up on line

RSVPs after November 7,2016 add \$3 per person to posted prices

# You are cordially invited to attend UJA-Federation of New York's

presenting the

Community Leadership Award to RABBI TRACY KAPLOWITZ AND DR. JONATHAN BOXER

Community Service Award to LISA AND DAVID TRAVIS

Business Leader Award to **BRAM WEBER** 

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016 · 6:30 P.M. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Elaborate cocktail hour and dinner 8:15 p.m. Program

Temple Beth Torah 35 Bagatelle Road, Melville, New York

Dinner: \$110 per person \$110 -the value of the event -

is not tax-deductible.

of the year. The event will feature a Scroll of Honor for donors of \$500 or more. We hope that you will participate in our scroll in support of UJA-Federation of New York. We welcome your pledge now and request payment before Saturday, December 31, 2017. With your gift, you'll have the opportunity to attend other select UJA-Federation events during the 2017 campaign year.

The Signature Event is our only Suffolk fundraising event

For more information, please contact Laurie Birzon at 516.762.5819 or birzonl@ujafedny.org.



# RABBI TRACY KAPLOWITZ AND DR. JONATHAN BOXER

Community Leadership Award

UJA-Federation is an incredible organization that makes a real difference in the lives of those in need on Long Island, in the greater New York area, and in Jewish communities throughout the world. It is a wonderful feeling to be honored by an organization that has a significant global impact.



# LISA AND DAVID TRAVIS

Community Service Award

As long-time members of the South Huntington Jewish Center, we are committed to developing and maintaining a vibrant and strong Jewish community. Likewise, as Jewish people, we have a responsibility to reach out when help is needed. UJA-Federation embraces that responsibility through its commitment to caring for millions of people around the world and we are honored to be recognized by such a caring and effective organization.



# **BRAM WEBER**

**Business Leader Award** 

The Jewish institutions in our communities need support - both financial and structural so they can endure and grow. UJA-Federation is there when these institutions need them and because of that I have supported UJA-Federation for over a decade. As my wife and I raise our children and teach them the importance of being positive contributors to society, we need our community's Jewish institutions to support us and shine as examples of what Jewish values can accomplish. When UJA-Federation thrives, our families, community, and institutions thrive with it.

# Spotlight on...



# Selma Greenstein

It was a good year when Selma Sass was born. She is known affectionately

to us as Selma Greenstein. Selma's family lived in the Bronx. Her father, Max was a young fur dealer and her mother, Edith, was a stay-at-home mom. Selma was the youngest of three children. She was given the Hebrew name of Stisa. Selma was raised with the values of owning responsibility, embracing strong work ethics and respecting elders.

When Selma was growing up, attending synagogue was not the priority for women or children. At Hillcrest Jewish Center, children were viewed as disruptive to services, and her family only attended together at High Holiday services.

After high school Selma attended City College for two years, studying French, Hebrew, literature and writing. Ongoing study was deemed less important for women so Selma put aside academics and began to work as a secretary by day and as a Latin Mambo teacher in Jamaica, Queens, by night!

Selma's family moved from the Bronx to Queens, and at the age of 20 where she met Morty Greenstein at a party. Blessings were granted and at the age of 22, Selma and Morty were married.

Morty was an independent sort who believed "life was a democracy and he was king." He ran his own business and provided for his family as a professional window cleaner. Morty realized that for business purposes, relocation to Patchogue, Long Island, was the right step. Morty and Selma compromised by living in Huntington so as not to be too far from family in Queens. They moved to Huntington in 1955 where they raised their 3 children: Lee, Caryl, and Paul.

Selma and Morty's first connection to HJC began through Morty's social interactions, plus his efforts to support construction around the synagogue. Selma was a dedicated, hardworking, loving mother and wife; she gave all of herself to raising her family. Unlike Selma's childhood, her children were involved at HJC; and she expressed honor and pride in their religious studies, their active roles in leadership, and the knowledge that her children and grandchildren were all named and married by Rabbi Rothenberg and Rabbi Kurshan.

In 1994, Selma lost her beloved husband Morty, who passed suddenly. The traditional role she had once embraced changed and Selma became the sole provider of the household. With her integrity and strength, she pushed forward, took charge and went to work. She raised her children, provided them with a Jewishly-connected upbringing, established friendships and supported her community. To this day, Selma continues to work five days a week in her son, Paul's law practice and often attends morning minyan, of which she feels both blessed and proud. Selma grew to become a pillar of strength, honor and support to her family and community.

Selma states her greatest joy is her remarkable children, their spouses and her beloved eight grandchildren. She enjoys retelling stories when each one of them touched her heart and how they have become strong and giving people.

Selma has been involved with HJC Sisterhood, supportive of synagogue events, and attends Shabbat services regularly. Selma holds her place of stability in the back row of the synagogue among her friends or at the tables at Shabbat Kiddush. Selma presents as reserved, observant, considerate, wise and always extending a warm embrace and gentle smile. She has a great sense of humor and enjoys a hearty laugh. Selma is someone who recognizes and encourages individuality; she also possesses strength and integrity.

When asked during the interview is, "Is there a bracha (blessing) from Jewish liturgy that could match the memories that you have shared?" Selma responded: "It is you whom I seek, it is your presence."

Interview compiled by Donna Zimmerman and Selma Greenstein

# Spotlight on...

A revised version of last month's Spotlight article is being printed here. The article published last month was mistakenly an incorrect draft.



# Ellen Kahn, M.D.

Ellen Kahn and her husband Richard (of Blessed Memory) joined HJC in 2000.

Born in Germany, her family escaped the Nazis in 1938 and settled in Portugal. Life in Germany was difficult. There was harassment both physically

and emotionally.

Ellen remembers Portugal fondly. She mastered the Portuguese language and eventually went on to study medicine at Lisbon University. She obtained the Portuguese citizenship and with that a feeling of belonging.

After completing medical school she became a Pathologist and practiced and taught at the University Hospital and Medical School of Lisbon as an attending and associate professor in Pathology.

During her stay in the US, having obtained a scholarship, Ellen met her future husband of 51 years, Richard Kahn, economist by profession. The couple was married in Lisbon

They settled in Huntington and had two children, Ronald and Vivian. After taking a six year hiatus from medicine,

Ellen obtained her license in Medicine of the NY State and practiced pathology for over 38 years at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, NY.

Ellen says that she enjoyed her work, with presentations at national and international meetings, publications and collaborative research.

Although successful professionally, Ellen states that her greatest achievement was to have had a happy marriage and the love of her dear children

She is grateful for the support from her husband, allowing her to achieve her professional goals. She is proud that the children she and Richard raised grew to become good and decent people. Ronald is now a cardiovascular anesthesiologist at Mt Sinai hospital in NY. Vivian obtained a degree in Human Relations. Her two children and their spouses have provided Ellen with lots of Naches — including seven grand- and two great grandchildren.

Ellen has always taken an interest in the well being of others. She also likes photography, classical music, nature and knitting. Ellen likes staying active; and this, coupled with genuine love for Tikkun Olam has helped Ellen keep young at heart.

Interviewed and written by Simon Kapen (8th Grader at Oldfield Middle School) with Ellen Kahn

# **HJC Holiday Home Hospitality**

When asked to relate our warmest Jewish memories, we often think of holiday meals. gathered with family and friends around glowing candles and our favorite traditional dishes. Such occasions can become even more meaningful and memorable when shared with others in our community. The mitzvah of hosting guests at our table (hachnasat orchim) goes back to the earliest days of our tradition, because it helps to build the bonds of a holy community in a profound and personal way, whether one is a host or a guest.

This past Rosh Hashanah, a hospitality committee was formed at HJC to promote and facilitate the mitzvah of hachnasat orchim in our community. The original motivation was to ensure that no one in our community would miss sharing a holiday meal with family or friends, but the goal is to expand further to make this a community-building effort.

We are pleased to report that, in this initial pilot program, we successfully matched people for seven holiday meals and garnered positive feedback and suggestions from our participants. Thank you to all of our hosts and guests for your participation!

Although we operated this time on a relatively small scale, it's notable, and reflective of the menschlichkeit of our community, that we received three times as many hosting offers as we could fill. The encouraging results mean that we will be expanding this program in the future for Pesach Seders and possibly at other times. Please think about participating the next time - and, especially, don't be shy about signing up to be a guest! What better way to share some quality time getting to know your HJC family? Additionally, if you are interested in helping to organize this effort, please contact the HJC Hospitality Committee through the main office.

# Donations **Extent**

#### **GENERAL FUND**

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the marriage of David, son of Joel & Barbara Kuppersmith, to Jessica Silverman.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Edward Richter, father of Michael Richter.

Philip Glaser in memory of Jerome Cohen at yahrzeit. Yolanda Barfus in memory of Anita Gelberg, sister of Gloria Safran.

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Anita Gelberg, sister of Gloria Safran.

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Edward Richter, father of Michael Richter.

Shelley & Marc Weinberg in memory of Anita Gelberg, sister of Gloria Safran.

Richard Klee in memory of Carole Klee at yahrzeit.

Joan & Norman Mattisinko in memory of Max Mattisinko at yahrzeit.

Joan & Norman Mattisinko in memory of Sylvia Mattisinko at yahrzeit.

Sarah Eidelberg in memory of Jonah Eidelberg at yahrzeit. Miriam & Ronald Goldberg in memory of Julius L. Goldberg at yahrzeit.

Noah Finkel in memory of Ruth Finkel at yahrzeit.
Susan Drucker in memory of Oscar Drucker at yahrzeit.
Sy Schpoont in memory of Hirsh Schpoont at yahrzeit.
Helaine Levy in memory of Selma Goldstein at yahrzeit.
Renda & Ken z"l Rosenblatt in honor of the engagement of their daughter, Tiphanie, to Stephen Shoemaker.

Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Rabbi Tobias Rothenberg. Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Richard T. Rosen, brother of Tom Rosen.

Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Sarah Nack, daughter of Madeline & Peter Nack.

Marilyn & Gary Woghin in memory of Sally Woghin at yahrzeit. Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in honor of the marriage of David, son of Joel & Barbara Kuppersmith, to Jessica Silverman.

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in memory of Anita Gelberg, sister of Gloria Safran.

Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer in honor of the birth of Miles Sebastion Saltiel, grandson of Marge & Larry Maltin.

Marianne Sokol in memory of Marvin Marsh, husband of Myra Marsh.

Martin Rosenblatt in memory of Sidney Rosenblatt at yahrzeit. Shelley & Marc Weinberg in memory of Sarah Weinberg at yahrzeit.

Arthur Boshnack in memory of Lillian Boshnack at yahrzeit. Philip Glaser in memory of Sarah Glaser at yahrzeit.

Ethel Sachs in honor of Andrea Smoller & Jeff & Lesley Stark being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.

Marcia & Seymour Weinick in memory of Robert Feinstein & Charles Feinstein at yahrzeit.

Marcia & Seymour Weinick in memory of Gertrude Weinick & Morris Weinick at yahrzeit.

Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in memory of Samuel Butlein at yahrzeit.

Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in honor of the birth of Levi Younai, son of Kevin and Amy Younai.

Susan & Nathan Board & family in memory of Kenneth Board at yahrzeit.

Robert Lifson in memory of Hannah Lifson at yahrzeit.

#### **ARK & PULPIT FUND**

Joan Blank in memory of Rabbi Tobias Rothenberg.

#### **ARNIE KERNS FUND**

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

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

Syd Schlesinger in memory of Rita Schlesinger at yahrzeit. Syd Schlesinger in memory of Anita Gelberg, sister of Gloria Safran.

Gregory & Sidney Packer in memory of Eleanor Packer. Marianne Sokol in honor of Rabbi David Barnett.

### **COLLEGIATE FUND**

Judi & Marty Rosenblatt in memory of Richard T. Rosen, brother of Tom Rosen.

Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Ruth Rosenblatt, mother of Marty Rosenblatt.

# **DAILY MINYAN FUND**

Susi Susskind in memory of Richard T. Rosen, brother of Tom Rosen.

Susi Susskind in memory of Elsa Laemmle at yahrzeit. Susi Susskind in memory of Isack Laemmle at yahrzeit. Susi Susskind in memory of Bert Landauer at yahrzeit. Bea Pedowicz in memory of Molly Weinstein Rencoff at

yahrzeit. Vicki & Tom Rosen in honor of Andrea Smoller & Jeff & Lesley

# DAVID ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Stark being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Ruth Rosenblatt, mother of Marty Rosenblatt.

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Anita Gelberg, sister of Gloria Safran.

Judy & Lester Fox wishing a speedy recovery to Newt Meiselman.

# DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the engagement of Tiphanie, daughter of Renda and Ken z"l Rosenblatt, to Stephen Shoemaker.

# Donations **Donations**

#### PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Joan & Norman Mattisinko in memory of Richard T. Rosen, brother of Tom Rosen.

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

#### SOCIAL ACTION/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Rosalyn Haber in memory of Anita Gelberg, sister of Gloria Safran.

Marsha Buchholtz in memory of Sadie Sitron at yahrzeit. Marsha Buchholtz in memory of Jeanette Rosenberg at

### yahrzeit.

Gordon & Charlene Kerner in memory of Ruth Rosenblatt, mother of Marty Rosenblatt.

Gordon & Charlene Kerner in memory of Jill Kimmel, sister of Andrea Dubow.

Eleanor Siperowitz in memory of Pauline Siperowitz at yahrzeit. Eleanor Siperowitz in honor of Joan & Norman Mattisinko. Leslie & Jack Rubin wishing a speedy recovery to Jill Sherman. Marlene & Lenny Hummel wishing a speedy recovery to Jill Sherman.

#### Cantor con't from pg. 8

Second, the music and our visceral reactions to hearing it are all the more poignant because of the images and memories it conjures. It is the opening melodic phrase of the of Kol Nidrei and the tunes of Avinu Malkeinu and B'rosh Hashanah that connect us to each other, to our parents and grandparents, and to images of generations of Jews that have come before us. In this room there are likely countless examples in which the sounds of the holiday are central to the narrative. When I chant the Kol Nidre, I am reminded of when my father sang these same words, and I feel part of the larger story of my family and our People.

As we gather during these High Holy Days, it is not only the ancient melodies that are so powerful. It is also the new tunes and sounds that instill in us not just a longing or nostalgia for the past, but a hope for the future. It is through music that our hopes and wishes, and yes, even prayers, can take flight. In our Mahzor it is written that the Baal Shem Tov taught that the way to praise God is first to begin with words and then, as our souls rise, to give expression to the words with song; the music moves us to sing without words, and finally, our whole body wants to praise God and we dance. So even if we aren't dancing in the aisles here tonight or tomorrow, the music should move and uplift us, give us hope in the potential of a new year and fresh beginning.

So as we start the year 5777 together, I hope we can continue to find community and connection in our shared experiences. I hope that the music, in addition to the words, can provide us a way to connect to ourselves and to each other, in the good and in the bad. We acknowledge that some of us are full of joy, some of us ache with sorrow, some of us are embittered, and many of us are hungering for more. Let us pray together for a meaningful and purposeful new year for all of us.

#### Rabbi, con't from pg. 4

cognizant and appreciative of the process in reflection, is no small miracle in itself. It's amazing and huge! That is the first major step, and if we are attentive as the day progresses, there are untold numbers of miracles to be thankful for.

Later on, in the daily morning prayer, as in the afternoon and evening liturgies as well, is the "modim anachnu lach" prayer, in which we specifically recognize that our continued existence is in God's hands, at each and every instant, considering all of the miracles we experience on a daily basis just in the process of living. To be grateful for all of these miracles occurring in multiplicity, and simultaneously, "b'chol eit", even though no human being fully understands them, is central, I would submit, to a religious outlook. In many way, it represents the concept of a "sine qua non", a fundamental precept and condition of reality without which nothing else is either possible or conceivable within a religious framework.

How easy it becomes for us, as we try to apply the

standards of competitive perfectionism to every aspect of our daily lives, to take so many of these basic miracles for granted. In moments of loss or grief, notwithstanding their significance and impact, it becomes a psychological danger for us to obsess on the fewer elements of loss, rather than the multitude of gains and blessings, both physically, and on an existential basis of deeper, infinite, and long-lasting meaning. To have the inner resilience and outlook to be grateful for even elements of pain and loss amongst the backgrounds of manifold blessings requires the cultivation of many parts of our spirit, but the process itself will bring its own inherent rewards and blessings.

We can all be grateful for each other and for our community here, accompanied by everything else in our lives allowing us to live, and so I wish you a continuing spirit of being able to cultivate feelings of gratitude not only this month, but in each and every instant of our lives, always, as well.

--Rabbi David Barnett

# **HJC Bulletin** November 2016

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# **SAVE THE DATE!**

# Jewish Museum Guided Tour Sunday, November 13, 2016

**Sponsored by HJC Sisterhood** 



Join us for a 45 minute guided tour of the Culture and Continuity Exhibit, representing one of the world's great opportunities to explore Jewish culture and history through art. This acclaimed, permanent exhibition tells the unfolding story of Jewish culture and identity through 800 works of art, archaeology, ceremonial objects, photographs, video and interactive media. After the tour, explore other exhibits, have lunch at Russ and Daughters Café and enjoy other museums along Museum Mile.

Meet at 11:00AM in lobby of Jewish Museum 1109 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 92<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10028 Tour starts promptly at 11:15AM

Price: \$16.50/person (Lunch and transportation not included)

Please make check payable to HJC Sisterhood and send to: Huntington Jewish Center, 510 Park Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743 Att: Sisterhood/Jewish Museum or bring to HJC office

For information on Directions and Parking and Tips and Guidelines http://theiewishmuseum.org/visit

OPEN TO ALL!
TICKETS ARE LIMITED! FIRST COME, FIRST-SERVED!

RSVP by 10/21
Evelyn Abraham at 631-424-6922/evelyn\_abraham@optonline.net

Hope you can join us!