



October 2017 / Tishrei - Cheshvan 5778 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

SAVE THE DATE!

NOVEMBER 2017				CHESHVAN-KISLEV 5778		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1/12 Cheshvan	2/13 Cheshvan	3/14 Cheshvan	4/15 Cheshvan
5/16 Cheshvan	6/17 Cheshvan					11/22 Cheshvan
12/23 Cheshvan	13/24 Cheshvan					18/29 Cheshvan
19/1 Kislev						25/7 Kislev
26/8 Kislev						



Installation of Rabbi Ari Saks of the Huntington Jewish Center

An Afternoon of Blessings, Sunday, November 19th 3:00 – 5:30 pm

Blessings offered by

Rabbi Neil Kurshan
Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove
Rabbi Moshe Saks
Rabbi David Ackerman
Pastor Bernadette Falcon Lopez

Rabbi Emeritus of the Huntington Jewish Center, Huntington NY
Park Avenue Synagogue, NY
Temple Israel, Scranton PA
Beth Am Israel, Penn Valley PA
God's Army Ministries, Perth Amboy NJ

Musical Blessings offered by

Cantor Israel Gordan

Huntington Jewish Center, Huntington NY

Installation Address by Rabbi Ari Saks

Entertainment, Hors D'oeuvres and Dessert to follow

Aaron Friedman – Jewish comedian

Musical performances by members of the HJC community

Cantor Israel Gordan – Huntington Jewish Center, Huntington NY



Sisterhood News

Join Us!

Support the Sisterhood of HJC!

THURSDAY, 10/19

SISTERHOOD PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP DINNER

Come meet, mingle and enjoy a great dinner and program.

\$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.

Please return your membership envelopes and/or bring
your payment to our Membership Dinner.

Hope to see you all there!

Z'HAVAH EVENT

**3rd ANNUAL PIZZA and SUKKAH DECORATING
SUNDAY, 10/1 @12pm**

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 2nd and 3rd.

Contact Marlene Hummel at

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

Upcoming Events

October 16 - Sisterhood Board Meeting

October 19 - Paid-up Membership Dinner

November 2 & 3 - Drop off for Fall Rummage Sale

November 5 & 6 - Rummage Sale – Volunteers needed!

November 9th - Book Discussion @ 1pm

The Two-Family House by Lynda Cohen Loigman

November 13 - Sisterhood Board Meeting

November 16 - Film: *Look At Us Now, Mother*

November 20 - Rosh Chodesh Program

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

Sisterhood Contacts:

Donna Fleiss - donna.fleiss@gmail.com

Miriam Wirchin - mirm1225@aol.com

Rabbi Ari Saks

Rabbi

631-423-5355



Cantor Israel Gordon

Director, Synagogue Programming
And Religious School Innovation

631-427-1089 ext. 15

Neil Kurshan

Rabbi Emeritus

Vicki Perler

President

631-427-1089

Maxine Fisher

Religious School Administrator

631-427-1157 ext. 14

Ilene Brown

Director, Early Childhood Center

631-427-1089 ext. 15

Barbara Axmacher

Executive Director

427-1089 ext. 23

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Beautification

Bikur Cholim/Bereavement

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Leslie Lane

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Lief Chapel Beautification

Membership

Men's Club

Religious School Board

Ritual

Security

Sisterhood

Social Action

Special Arrangements

Storytelling Project

Sunshine

Theatre Development

Technology

Tree of Life

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Noah Deane

Arthur Perler

Shari Feibel

OCTOBER 2017

TISHREI / CHESHVAN 5778

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1/11 Tishrei JNN RS/MC Sukkah Building SH Z'Havah Prg - 12 noon Ridotto - 4PM Rabbi Open House - 4PM USY/Kad Sukkah Decor	2/12 Tishrei Social Action's Project Isaiah Food Drive thru October 16	3/13 Tishrei SH Prog. Meeting - 3:30PM RS	4/14 Tishrei Services - 7:15PM <i>Erev Sukkot</i>	5/15 Tishrei ECC/Main Office Closed <i>1st Day of Sukkot</i>	6/16 Tishrei ECC/Main Office Closed <i>2nd Day of Sukkot</i>	7/17 Tishrei Jr. Congregation 10:30AM <i>Chol Hamoed</i>
8/18 Tishrei JNN RS Closed LIFF - Heckscher Park MC Steak & Sirloin - 6PM <i>Chol Hamoed</i>	9/19 Tishrei ECC/Main Office Closed <i>Chol Hamoed</i> <i>Columbus Day</i>	10/20 Tishrei RS/MT/Chaverim Pizza in the Hut - 6:15PM Folk Singing Duo - 7PM The Coopers <i>Chol Hamoed</i>	11/21 Tishrei <i>Hoshanah Rabah</i> <i>Erev Shemini Atzeret</i>	12/22 Tishrei ECC/Main Office Closed Simchat Torah Svcs - 7PM <i>Yizkor</i> <i>Shemini Atzeret</i> <i>Erev Simchat Torah</i>	13/23 Tishrei ECC/Main Office Closed Simchat Torah Luncheon after Services <i>Simchat Torah</i>	14/24 Tishrei
15/25 Tishrei JNN RS/RS Board Meeting USY/Kadima	16/26 Tishrei SH Board Meeting - 8PM	17/27 Tishrei RS Jewish Public Affairs Forum - 8PM	18/28 Tishrei Mid-Week Manna - 9:30AM Mid-Week Manna - 1:00PM EC Meeting - 7:30PM	19/29 Tishrei Paid-Up Sisterhood Membership Dinner 6:30PM	20/30 Tishrei <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>	21/1 Cheshvan Singer Bar Mitzvot 9:30AM <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>
22/2 Cheshvan JNN RS/Workshop Brunch & Learn - 10AM Bassem Eid MC Greenbelt Hike	23/3 Cheshvan Chai Institute - 7:30PM Dix Hills JC	24/4 Cheshvan RS/MT/Chaverim	25/5 Cheshvan Mid-Week Manna - 9:30AM Mid-Week Manna - 1:00PM Mid-Week Manna - 8:00PM	26/6 Cheshvan Mah Jongg - 7:30PM Board Meeting - 8PM	27/7 Cheshvan	28/8 Cheshvan Jr. Congregation 10:30AM (mostly) True Things 8:30PM
29/9 Cheshvan JNN RS/Kashrut Workshop Kadima Ridotto	30/10 Cheshvan Chai Institute - 7:30PM	31/11 Cheshvan RS				

Calling for Hamantashen Helpers!

Come hang out with friends while you roll and pinch a few hamantashen!

(Flexible weekday hours, Sunday during Religious School)

We're starting our baking for Purim in November.

Dough makers are also needed - very easy recipe! Anyone can do this!!

Contact Donna Fleiss or look for sign-up poster in lobby area. donna.fleiss@gmail.com



Sisterhood Book Talk

November 9

A Boy in Winter by Rachel Seiffeert.

A Ukrainian town is overrun by the Germans and then the SS. Over the next three days the town and the lives of the people are turned upside down.

Beautifully written, compelling characters. Book will be in library for a 2 week read. Talk is at 1PM in library and the discussion is always interesting, intense and a way to renew old friendships.

Please respond to Syd519@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you for talk, coffee, tea and light goodies.

People of the Book - Ben Tasman Library

Our library is a constant work in progress, always adding books, and now a first catalogue of our collection. Our "research" collection is outstanding and of course can only be accessed for use in the library. Our collection ranges from fiction to history to art and wonderful cook books. Books can be taken out for 2 weeks and magazines are always there for browsing. Authors range from Amoz Oz to Fay Kellerman. It is a comfortable place to sit, quiet and welcoming. If you are dropping off children for school, why not stop by and spend some time there. Commemorate a special occasion with the gift of a book and we will put in a special nameplate. If there is a particular book you would like and we do not have it, let us know. If you would like to help us in the ongoing maintenance of the library we would love to have you. Happy reading. *Syd Schlesinger*.

From Rabbi Ari Saks



Setting Expectations with Vision

It feels strange to write an article before the holiday season for a bulletin that will appear during the season. Before the season there is great anticipation amidst the mountain of work of preparation; during the season the drama will be unfolding, drenched with as of yet unknown emotions and fresh ideas. We're pretty good at

predicting the future when we expect it to be much like our past, but what if there is no past to go on? As new members of the HJC community, Rachel and I do not know what to expect from our first holiday season here in Huntington, NY. This sense of unknown expectations is heightened by the fact that I am personally the cause of unknown expectations for the entire community, simply by my presence on the bimah. Not to mention that many of you will be creating your first impressions of me which, whether we like it or not, is a form of "thin-slicing," a term used in Malcolm Gladwell's book *Blink* to describe how we make instinctive decisions based on a limited amount of evidence. This natural human tendency to "thin-slice" will for better or worse create a paradigm of expectations between us for years ahead. Once expectations are set, they are hard to alter. Hence the strange feeling I'm having of writing in a dream of unknown expectations with limitless possibility while being read in a wakened state of reality in which expectations have been formed.

In thinking about the consequences of expectations met and unmet, I'm drawn to the question of what it means to have a "vision." After all, setting expectations in any context is about reconciling your vision of what is and your vision for what you hope will be. We may be able to see up into the heavens, but we are also aware of the realities of the world we live in, and in that interplay between heaven and earth we set our expectations for life.

Two Hebrew words for "vision" which caught my eye are *chazon* (חזון) and *re-iyah* (ראיה). The first term, (i.e. *chazon*), connotes the idea of getting access to a heavenly view of the world. The first appearance of this term is in I Samuel 3:1 – "Young Samuel was in the service of the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord (*devar Adonai*) was rare; vision (*chazon*) was not widespread." The correlation between *chazon* and *devar Adonai* means that having vision connotes having the word of God, which is normally hidden from sight, within your view. Indeed when Samuel heard God's word in this passage he didn't think he was God, he thought it was Eli. He was not used to living in a world in which a vision of the limitless possibilities of the hidden world of God was in sight.

As opposed to *chazon*, the term *re-iyah* connotes the recogni-

tion of the limitations of our "earthly" sight. While *re-iyah* is not explicitly mentioned in the Bible, its sister form *re-i* (ראי) first appears in Judges 16:5 as a verb – "The lords of the Philistines went up to her and said, 'Coax [Samson] and see (*re-i*) what makes him so strong.'" In other words, the Philistines were trying to ascertain ways to defeat Samson by searching out his limitations. Everyone must have limitations that weaken their abilities, and "seeing" them will allow us to ascertain our expectations for dealing with one another.

Taken together, I think these two Hebrew definitions for "vision" can help us move forward together as a congregation both during and after this holiday season. For better and for worse, there should be moments this year that ground us in the limited reality of who we are and what we're about, while there will be others that should exalt our spirits to a potential that is still hidden from view. The trick is to keep these kinds of vision ensconced in our way of being over the years ahead. So when it comes to setting expectations this holiday season and moving forward into the years ahead, let us always be aware of our limited reality and the need to plan for its eventualities, and let us always pursue a vision that channels our optimism and hope for a future of limitless potential, all at once. I view this space as offering opportunities for reflection and visioning. That is to say that every day, all of us – professional staff, lay leaders, and engaged members – are working hard to foster a community that, as our new tagline states, uses Jewish wisdom to approach, engage, and nurture one another.

For instance...

- I've instituted an open door policy that, except for certain times, my door will be open so anyone can approach me and share what is on their minds and in their hearts
- Our Shabbatbarbecue testifies to how the wisdom of Shabbat, with its focus on food, rest, and community, can engage 250 people in our community at once
- When we're called to nurture a fellow member suffering from a devastating loss, we show up so she can say the Mourner's Kaddish

I can't explain every minute of every day, but I can take some time to pause and reflect on where we've been and where we're going. What are the issues we are addressing or need to address? How do our programs, services, and events reflect our mission to use Jewish wisdom to approach, engage, and nurture one another? The world spins round and round, but the wisdom of Shabbat teaches us that we need space and time to reflect, share, and understand how we're supposed to live in this world. Everything will not be dealt with at once, but by grasping little by little over time, we may grasp everything our hearts and souls desire.

Many blessings for us all as we embark upon this journey together, one step at a time.

View From The Director's Chair



If I Had My Life to Live Over

Another year has come to an end. As I look back examining the events that shaped it – the highs, the lows, victories and defeats, I am reminded that, through it all, my life is full. I was raised by amazing parents who continue to guide me. I have two beautiful, healthy children. I am in a loving relationship, have wonderful

friends, a fulfilling job and am in good health. I have a roof over my head, food to eat and live in a peaceful community with an abundance of cultural and educational opportunities. I challenge myself every day to recognize and be thankful for the intangible and irreplaceable value of my good fortune.

At this special time of thought and reflection, I share with you the indomitable and reflective words of Erma Bombeck, who in taking stock of her own life, came to realize these very important lessons and left them as a gift to us all.

With my best wishes, for a happy, healthy New Year to you and yours.

If I had my life to live over, I would have talked less and listened more.

I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained and the sofa faded.

I would have eaten the popcorn in the 'good' living room and worried much less about the dirt when someone wanted to light a fire in the fireplace.

I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth.

I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day because my hair had just been teased and sprayed.

I would have burned the pink candle sculpted like a rose before it melted in storage.

I would have sat on the lawn with my children and not worried about grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed less while watching television - and more while watching life.

I would have shared more of the responsibility carried by my husband.

I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for the day.

I would never have bought anything just because it was practical, wouldn't show soil or was guaranteed to last a lifetime.

Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy, I'd have cherished every moment and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was the only chance in life to assist God in a miracle.

When my kids kissed me impetuously, I would never have said, "Later. Now go get washed up for dinner."

There would have been more "I love you's".. More "I'm sorrys"

But mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute... look at it and really see it ... live it... and never give it back.

© Erma Bombeck



Thanks to the following Sisterhood women for polishing the Torah silver for the High Holidays and helping the holidays shine!



Andrea Forman Morris, Donna Fleiss, Felicia Messing, Ellen Kahn, Phyllis Levy, Marsha Kalina, Dori Herman and Miriam Wirchin (not pictured).



The Story of The Baum Sefer Torah

Standing proudly with Huntington Jewish Center's impressive collection of Sifrei Torah, the smallest Sefer Torah in the main sanctuary is the Baum Sefer Torah. As I stood on the Bima for my first Rosh Hashanah as President, I was transfixed when the Ark was opened and the Baum Sefer Torah was taken out. If only this Torah could

talk. In a world where the history of six generations of Jewish families is sometimes obscured by time, distance and lost memories, the story of this Sefer Torah documents my family's sojourn from their ancestral town of Felshteen to America, and, ultimately, to Huntington. This story has enriched and enhanced my life, and has inspired my children and my children's children in countless ways. I would like to share this story with my Huntington Jewish Center family. Thank you, in advance, for honoring my family's memory with the retelling of this story.

In the year 1919, the Cossacks inflicted terrible pogroms upon the Jews of the Ukraine, during which my great-grandfather, Reb Mordechai Aryeh Baum, was tortured and severely injured in his home and his wife murdered. My grandfather and his stepbrother survived by hiding in a pantry in the kitchen. The Katz family, next door, had their own troubles, as two brothers were murdered along with many other villagers. For the next two years, the massacres continued, and many Jews paid with their lives.

Early in 1921, my maternal grandparents, Esther (Katz) and Yoizep Baum were married, and along with Yoizep's father, Reb Mordechai, they hastily fled Felshteen to seek refuge in America. The route from the Ukraine to America began with a long and dangerous train trip to Warsaw, where they waited many months to receive visas and book passage on a ship. Great-grandfather Reb Mordechai was a religious and learned man, and was Felshteen's Baal Koreh (Torah reader). He was concerned that his family might not find basic ritual items in America, and he decided to acquire them before leaving Europe. Reb Mordechai selected a small, lightweight "traveling" Torah for the journey. He also acquired two Mezzuzot, a Megilat Esther, and a Shofar, to make sure his family could be "proper Jews" in the New World. Unfortunately, on the 24th of Kislev in the year 5682, while he waited for a visa in Volomin, Poland, near Warsaw, Reb Mordechai died. My grandparents, Esther and Yoizep, carrying the Torah and other ritual objects, continued the journey by sea, sailing under the harsh conditions of steerage. They arrived at Ellis Island three years after the devastating pogrom in Felshteen.

In America, Esther and Yoizep settled in the Bronx near the Baum family. Yoizep turned over the sacred objects to his oldest brother, Jonah Baum. The older brothers had left Felshteen years before and were well established in America. Jonah became the guardian of the Sefer Torah, and placed it in the Bryant Avenue Synagogue in the Bronx. It remained in use there from the 1920s through the mid 1960s. The first generation Baum family rebound the parchment on new Atzei Chaim. When Jonah died, his son, Abraham Baum, became the guardian of the Torah. In 1964 he moved the Sefer Torah to the Woodside Jewish Center in Queens, and in 1965, second generation members of the Baum family donated silver vestments for the Torah. Between 1964 and 1997, this small Sefer Torah was lovingly used by the many elderly synagogue members who would have had difficulty carrying a full-size Sefer Torah.

Throughout my childhood, my grandfather always talked about the Baum Sefer Torah and its history. He made sure that I knew where it resided and who was responsible for it. My interest was heightened after my grandfather's death in 1975 by a coincidence I can only describe as Beshert. My grandmother had recently given me a copy of the Yizkor book, Felshteen, written by the survivors to record the history of the town and its residents. Seeing it rekindled my husband Arthur's memory of a book his father had in his library. The Slaughter of the Jews in the Ukraine in 1919 was a compilation of eyewitness accounts and official reports assembled by the International Red Cross and published in 1921. In the book we found an entire section on the pogroms in Felshteen and neighboring villages. Here, in my husband's family library, were eyewitness accounts of the stories my grandparents told me, verifying the details of their stories. One of the more compelling accounts was given by a person referred to as, "the witness Kreimer," who, I discovered, was my grandmother Esther's uncle on her mother's side. We rebound and preserved this old book for future generations of our family to study.

In 1987, because of my longstanding interest in the Baum Sefer Torah and my family's commitment to Jewish life, Abraham Baum turned over the guardianship of the Sefer Torah to me. I agreed that the Sefer Torah would remain in the Woodside Jewish Center. Though the Sefer Torah had moved with the Baums from Shul to Shul throughout the years, the first time in recent memory that it was used by a Baum family member for a Simcha was at the Bar Mitzvah of our oldest son, Jeremy, in 1989. Two days before the Bar Mitzvah, Arthur borrowed the Sefer Torah from the Woodside Jewish Center and flew back to Maryland with the Sefer Torah on his lap. Jeremy chanted his Chanukah Bar Mitzvah Parsha from the Torah on the 26th of Kislev, sixty-eight years - almost to the day - after his great-

greatgrandfather died. At Jeremy's Bar Mitzvah, we saw the inscription on the Atzei Chaim for the first time, and we noted that Reb Mordechai's middle name was Aryeh – the same name we had given our second son, Ari. And as if to come full circle, my cousin, Eugene Kramer, son of "the witness Kreimer," came from California to attend the Simcha.

In 1990, our family moved to New York. In 1991, once again we borrowed the Sefer Torah from the Woodside Jewish Center, and Ari chanted Parshat Shabbat Sukkot for his Bar Mitzvah at HJC. In 1994, our son, Elie, chanted Parshat Bereishit from the Baum Torah at his Bar Mitzvah at HJC. In July 1997, the Woodside Jewish Center closed and returned the Sefer Torah to me. As the current guardian, I placed the Baum Sefer Torah in the Huntington Jewish Center where it remains on long-term loan to our congregation. In November 1998, our youngest son, Jacob, chanted his Bar Mitzvah Parshat Vayetzei from the Baum scroll, and in July 2001, Jeremy celebrated his Aufruf at HJC with his bride-to-be, Andrea, by chanting from it. The Baum Sefer Torah was lovingly used in Maryland on December 25, 2006 for the Simchat Bat of our first grandchild, Shira Perler – Reb Mordechai Aryeh Baum's great-great-great grandchild - the sixth generation of his family to celebrate with the Sefer Torah. Continuing the family tradition of using the Baum Sefer Torah for the S'machot of Reb Mordechai's descendants, our family chanted from the Torah at the Simchat Bat of our granddaughters, Orli, Valeria and Mia, as well as at the Aufruf of our son, Elie, before his wedding to his bride-to-be, Lauren, last year.

Members of HJC often read from the Baum Torah on Shabbat and Yom Tov. During HJC's 1999 Torah Project, Sofer Neil Yerman examined the Baum Sefer Torah and found it to be in

remarkably good shape. It is a standard 42 line Torah written in a beautiful and clear hand on natural calfskin. The parchment is unusually small, measuring between 10-5/8 to 13 inches. The Sofer estimated that the Torah was written prior to 1880, with lettering done in the Polish style. The Atzei Chaim are inscribed as follows: "This Sefer Torah of the Baum brothers is presented in memory of the soul of our father of blessed memory" "Reb Mordechai Aryeh, son of Yosefa, died the 24th of Kislev in the year 5682."

Last year, I was given the honor of Hagbah for the first time, on the day after my son, Elie, became engaged. As I lifted my family's Torah, I understood the foresight my greatgrandfather had almost 100 years ago, and I tried to imagine my grandparents concealing the Torah for the entire voyage across the ocean, all the while keeping it safe and secure. I could sense that my great-grandfather's joyous soul was elevated each time his descendants read from or lifted his Sefer Torah, and I now know that his merit will increase even further when, in two years, G-d-willing, his great-great-great-granddaughter, Shira, will chant her Bat Mitzvah portion from his Torah.

The Baum Sefer Torah has provided many HJC members with the opportunity to carry a Torah easily. I invite you to come to synagogue on Simchat Torah, when all of our Sifrei Torah are removed from the ark and everyone gets a chance to carry them. See whether you can spot the Baum Sefer Torah and read the inscriptions on the Atzei Chaim. Perhaps you will get a turn to carry this historic Sefer Torah.

*Chag Sameach,
Vicki*

HJC Babysitters:

Grace Willen	home: 631-754-5865 cell: 631-871-1477
Rachel Moss	cell: 631-944-1420
Noah Morris	cell: 631-427-4798
Ilyssa Stein	cell: 631-678-1654
Sarah Gemunder	cell: 631-766-7130

Calling all babysitters! Please email your current information if you would like it to be included in the bulletin on a monthly basis. Kindly email your updated information to hjcbulletin@gmail.com. Please include your current home and cell numbers.

**Hospital, Rehab & Home
Visits
With Rabbi Saks**

Are you sick or recuperating from an illness? Would you like Rabbi Saks to visit you, a family member, or a friend (from the congregation) in the hospital, rehab center or at home? Rabbi will be available for visits on Wednesday mornings.

Please contact Debbie in the Main Office by 3:00 pm on Tuesday if you would like to be visited the next day.

From Hazzan Israel Gordan



New Beginnings

Once again, the High Holidays are upon us. And this year, I will be working with my third rabbi in three years. While that means more preparation work for me, it's also an exciting opportunity to review and revisit old habits in a chance to see possibilities for change. I'd love to share with you some of the process that goes into High Holiday preparation from my end.

Starting about a month in advance, Rabbi Saks and I meet twice a week to discuss the High Holidays. Those meetings are spent both talking about larger picture goals as well as going over minute details. We go through each service of the High Holidays beginning with Ma'ariv and continuing with the Torah Service and Musaf looking at each and every page. We decide what we are doing out loud, what should be davened silently, what we include, what we skip, what's in Hebrew, what's in English, if there are congregational melodies, and any stage directions like opening and closing of the ark as well as standing and sitting, that might affect the flow. There is too much material to cover everything and the discussion of what to skip dates back to the time of the Talmud. We have to do this again with Yom Kippur and make sure that we are prepared for selichot, tashlikh, and all of the Jewish holidays that come right after the High Holidays, like Sukkot, Hoshana Rabba, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah.

I also have to make sure that any young people who are involved with the service are prepared for their Torah reading. As has been the tradition at HJC since before I came, we have our youth cover the Torah reading on one of the days of Rosh Hashanah and this year it is the first day when five of our teens will be reading Torah using the special trop for the High Holidays.

I personally spend a lot of time going over the services making sure I know the words of the prayers as well as the notes of any music that I am singing. Parts that are just "davened," I have to make sure that I know the correct nusah for and feel confident in the flow.

As I recall from my time before being a cantor, sitting in the pews during the High Holidays can be less than thrilling. It's long and there's a lot to cover. The more you put into preparing for the High Holidays the more meaningful they can be, but it's not always easy to find the time between the end of the summer and beginning of the school year and everything else that's happening, to make that effort.

Being on the bimah, however, really is exciting and makes the services fly by. There's a lot going on, a lot to keep track of, and a lot of anticipation as each page is followed by another in the mahzor with more material to be prepared for. I hope that in this new year of 5778, everyone in the congregation can find sparks of excitement, interest, and inspiration in each page of the prayer book during every service. May it be a sweet year filled with learning, growth, and meaning.

Women's League Torah Fund

Torah Fund Campaign for 5778 is Mah Tov.



Mah tovu, which means "**how good!**", is a phrase that originates in the Torah, in Numbers 24:5. Quoted in our prayer book, it forms the basis of the opening prayer that is sung when we enter the synagogue.

The full phrase is **Mah tovu ohalecha Yaakov, mishk'notecha Yisrael**, "**How goodly are your tents, O Jacob, your dwellings, O Israel!**" It is a spontaneous exclamation of joy and appreciation, said when gazing at the nation of Israel, dwelling in peace and mutual respect. As we celebrate the beginning of the 100th year of

Women's League for Conservative Judaism and the end of the 75th year of the **Torah Fund Campaign**, we count our many blessings as individuals within the community of Israel. We are blessed in our synagogues with depth of learning, prayer, and acts of kindness that bind us together; with communal leaders who are thoughtful and learned; with children and grandchildren who make us smile; and with the love of family and friends.

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 5778 Torah Fund pin as our gift to you for your generous support, please contact Evelyn Abraham or Ethel Sachs for more information.

Spotlight On...

Janet and Marty Kushnick

Janet & Marty Kushnick are a wonderful and supportive couple of 65 years.

Janet grew up in Hartford, CT in a large, close-knit, supportive extended family. She had an early Jewish education. After high school, she moved to NYC, attended Mt. Sinai School of Nursing, and graduated as an RN. She loved the city and loved living with her friends.

Marty grew up in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn. His father's extended family emigrated from Poland, was religiously observant, and he often visited them in Boro Park. He became bar mitzvah by being called to the Torah for an aliyah. Marty's father was a furrier, but eventually bought a stationery store on the upper west side of Manhattan. Marty happily recalls working there starting at the age of 12. His mother's family was well educated, and she encouraged Marty's academic advancement. At the age of 16, Marty entered Michigan State University. He later transferred to City College and then entered Brooklyn Law School as a night student.

Marty and Janet met when he accompanied a friend on a date in 1950. The evening was the conclusion of Yom Kippur, and after some persuasion Janet agreed to go with her friend that evening. Both confirm that at their first meeting, they knew this was the one for them! They were married shortly after, and have had a loving relationship since.

Marty was drafted in 1950 and served his first year in Fort Devens, MA. While he was stationed there, Janet took the initiative to travel to his base, find a place to live, and get a nursing job nearby. When Marty was stationed in Korea for a year, Janet moved back to Hartford to her family, and worked at Hartford Hospital.

Marty completed his law degree at Brooklyn Law School after his release from the Army. His law career began in New York City, and continued in Huntington in 1965. He opened his own practice in 1970, and found his work as a litigator to be the

most exciting.

Janet and Marty moved to Greenlawn, and eventually had a full house, with their children Mark, Amy, Larry, and Beth. They loved camping as a family from Maine to West Virginia, and have fond memories of camping with the Meiselmans. They love traveling, and visited numerous countries in Europe and Central America. They even traveled around Cape Horn, and to Australia and New Zealand.

Janet has opened her heart and her home to people through the years, many of whom do not have extended family. She proudly hosts large groups at their seder table.



Janet resumed her nursing career in 1970, with Marty taking over child care on the weekends. She began working part-time at Huntington Hospital, and continued to work there for 25 years.

With her quiet but determined manner, Janet has an impressive list of volunteer activities: continuing as a volunteer in Huntington Hospital Emergency Room, serving on the board of the Dolan Health Center, evaluating candidates for Meals on Wheels, being a docent at Huntington Historical Society, and taking numerous active roles on the HJC Family Life Committee, Sisterhood, and Social Action Committee, where she currently serves as co-chair.

Marty loves golfing and lunching with friends, taking courses at local colleges, and volunteering with Senior Net. He proudly served as president of the Huntington Lawyers Club. They both exercise at the Y, and truly enjoy their summer home in Vermont.

Their connection to HJC is very strong both socially and spiritually. Their four children, as well as their grandson, Jordan, became b'nai mitvah at HJC. Janet had her adult bat mitzvah here, and they traveled to Israel on a trip with Rabbi and Ethel Rothenberg. Since the loss of their son, Larry, they find comfort attending services. These days, their greatest pleasure is in their children, their grandchildren, and their great grandchildren.

Narrative compiled by Elaine Kleinmann with Janet and Marty Kushnick

Religious School

Maxine Fisher, Administrator



October Events

Now that we are all settled in and school is off to a great start, we have many events going on in October. The children will be busy making decorations for our sukkah and will help decorate. There is Junior Congregation on Saturday, October 7th with Dori. There is also another on Saturday, October 28th also with Dori. Remember,

your child needs a minimum of 10 Shabbat attendances.

HJC is participating in the Long Island Fall Festival on Sunday, October 8th and we are looking for people to help out at our table. If you are available, please let me know. There is no Religious School that day for Columbus Day Weekend.

Tuesday, October 10th we are having Pizza in the Hut at 6:15. More info to follow. Change in Calendar...no chaverim that evening.

Thursday, October 12th, at 7:00 join the congregation and Religious School families along with Temple Beth El and Kehilleth Shalom for a fun and lively Simchat Torah celebration in our main sanctuary.

Sunday, October 22nd at 9:45 is the Shema bedtime pillow workshop for the Alef and Bet classes and their parents. Please drop your children off at 9:00 and join our mornings minyan for 45 minutes.

And to end the month on Sunday, October 29th there is the first of the Vav family workshops with Rabbi Saks and also the Kashrut workshop for Gomel and Daled classes and their families. All workshops start at 9:45.

**Our
community
time.**



**Topic: obstacles.
Our obstacle
course.**

**Fun for children
and adults.**

UJA-Federation New York 2018 Suffolk Signature Event

Guest Speaker

Alan Dershowitz

Renowned scholar, lawyer, and jurist

L'Dor V'Dor Award

The Ain Family:

**Meryl & Stewart, Beth & Jonathan, Alana
& Rabbi Dan, Halie & Morty**

Business Leader Award

Kevin Gray

Community Service Award

Dr. Arnold M. Schwartz

Thursday, November 2, 2017, 6:30 pm

Temple Beth Torah

35 Bagatelle Road, Melville, New York

Signature Event Master of Ceremonies

Jonathan Greenhut

Suffolk County Cabinet Chair

Jamie Adler

Dinner: \$110 per person

\$110 — the value of the event — is not tax-deductible.

Dietary laws observed.

The Signature Event is our only Suffolk fundraising event of the year. The suggested minimum donation is \$500. With your gift you'll have the special opportunity to attend other select UJA-Federation events during the 2018 campaign year. We welcome your pledge now and request payment before December 31, 2018. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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

Join the Long Island Jewish community for a
**BENEFIT CONCERT
TO SUPPORT MEIR PANIM**



FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Help support hungry children in Israel while feeding hungry children in Long Island.
We will be collecting non-perishable food items for donation to Long Island Cares.

NOVEMBER 12, 2017

5:30 PM VIP RECEPTION | **7:00 PM** CONCERT

SYJCC 74 HAUPPAUGE ROAD, COMMACK, NEW YORK 11725



SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST

CANTOR AVI ALBRECHT

BETH TRILAH CONGREGATION OF BALTIMORE

FEATURING WORLD-RENOWNED CANTORS

OFER BARNOY
TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM

AARON COHEN
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ADAM FREI
MIDWAY JEWISH CENTER

ISRAEL GORDAN
HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

STEVEN HEVENSTONE
DIX HILLS JEWISH CENTER

RANDALL LEVIN
SOUTH HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

ZACHARY MONDROW
EAST NORTHPORT JEWISH CENTER

ALSO PARTICIPATING

NORTH SHORE JEWISH CENTER

HONORARY CHAIR
Rabbi Howard R. Buechler
DIX HILLS JEWISH CENTER

CHAIR
Cantor Steven Hevenstone
DIX HILLS JEWISH CENTER

**ECLECTIC PROGRAM INCLUDING
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BROADWAY STANDARDS**

**PERFORMANCES BY
ATID BOY'S CHOIR, QUEENS
SYJCC CHOIR**



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SPONSORSHIPS AND RESERVATIONS MAY BE MADE ONLINE AT

MEIRPANIM.ORG/CONCERT2017 OR CALL 877.736.6283

5316 NEW UTRECHT AVENUE | BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11219

RSVP AND AD DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2017

Early Childhood News



***"Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success."***

-Henry Ford

As many of you know by now, the ECC is growing. We have added an additional toddler class this year and now have three toddler classes. We welcome 90 children this September and 22 new families to the HJC ECC. When I think about what we should attribute the growth to, many people come to mind and all have played a key role in the growth of the ECC. The most important factor of course is the extraordinary staff of the ECC. The teachers are truly invested in every child. Their love, dedication, and passion is limitless. They have been loyal to HJC for as many as 32 years and counting, while some of our newer teachers have fit right in and shown the same love and loyalty to the children and the HJC ECC. A program is only as good as its teachers and we are blessed to have extraordinary ones.

The Parent Association of the ECC is another huge component of why we have grown so much. Not only do these amazing parents raise funds to improve the ECC, they also build our community. They are inclusive supportive, kind, helpful, and give up a great deal of their precious time. The PA has brought our community together by hosting ladies nights out, parents' nights out, and many other wonderful events that build a close knit community.

The clergy, religious school, and main office also attribute to the success of the HJC ECC community. Cantor Gordan who teaches and engages the children in song and hosts the best ECC Tot Shabbat every Friday morning. It is one of the highlights of our week and the joy and feeling of community is almost tangible. Rabbi Saks has definitely already made an incredible impression on the ECC staff and families. He has brought with him a guiding light, energy, and blanket of warmth to the ECC. Maxine and I work as a well-oiled team to bridge the ECC with Religious school to continue the children's path as a loyal member and part of HJC. We have worked together to create new programming to join the ECC and Religious school rather than to have them viewed as separate entities. Debbie, Barbara, and Irma spend so much of their time supporting the ECC and we are so fortunate to have every single one of them. The Board of Directors and the entire

HJC community have also been a huge pillar of strength and support of all of us at the ECC. They have kept an open mind and heart when the needs of the ECC are considered.

I am truly blessed to be part of this wonderful, close knit, and spirited community. As you can see, it takes a village!





Dinner in the *Sukkah*



Tuesday October 10th at 6:15 pm

* Pizza * Falafel * Salads *

\$15 per adult, \$8 per child (*free under 5*)
RSVP requested by Wednesday October 4th
Stay for After Dinner Entertainment by
J&J Cooper (Brian's parents)

Check your email for online RSVP and payment.
For more information, call (631) 427-1089
(Payment at the door: \$18 per adult and \$10 per child)



Huntington Jewish Center
510 Park Ave., Huntington, NY 11746

To our wonderful HJC family,

Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy on the loss of my mom. Your support and friendship have been invaluable and we are blessed to be a part of such a caring community.

*With love,
Allison Reiver*

Stories may well be lies, but they are good lies that say true things, and can sometimes pay the rent.*

**Neil Gaiman*

A high-energy, often hilarious, sometimes emotion-packed and always entertaining show that is a ton of fun!



Unvarnished Truth?

Little White Lie?

A storytelling game where you decide!

Featuring 4 Surprise Guest Storytellers

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017

8:30 PM

\$25 pp includes 1 coffee, 1 cordial and delicious dessert buffet

The game is this:

1 unvarnished truth, 3 little white lies. Query the storytellers, vote for who you think told it straight and win a prize!

Reservations Suggested or \$30 at the door
RSVP by 10/16 - HJC Main Office or visit www.hjcny.org

(mostly) TRUE THINGS was created and is hosted by Jude Treder-Wolff
To learn more visit:
www.mostlytruethings.com

SISTERHOOD FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Time to make room in your closets!

Please bring us your clean, gently used, fall/winter clothes, toys, books, shoes, baby items, and small housewares.



Drop Off:	Thursday	Nov. 2nd	9:00AM to 6:00PM
	Friday	Nov. 3rd	9:00AM to 3:00PM
Sale Days:	Sunday	Nov. 5th	9:00AM to 3:00PM
	Monday	Nov. 3rd	9:30AM to 2:00PM

Volunteers needed to set up, work the sale and clean up:

Thursday, Nov. 2 from 9-6 and Friday, Nov. 3 from 9-3

Sunday, Nov. 5 from 9-3:30 and Monday, Nov. 6 from 9:30-5

Contact Marlene Hummel at 631-988-3484 / mskhummel@aol.com

Donations

GENERAL FUND

Bela & Mel Schoenfeld

Harriet Harris in memory of Rita Alpert at yahrzeit.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Theresa Rothenberg, mother of Eileen Berger.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the engagement of Netta, daughter of Ken & Nancy Bob, to Anna Swartz.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the marriage of Alexis, daughter of Sheila & Bruce Feinberg, to Joe Avdek.

The HJC Board of Trustees in honor of the marriage of Alexis, daughter of Sheila & Bruce Feinberg, to Joe Avdek.

The HJC Board of Trustees in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of **Michael & Marshall Singer**, sons of Marc & Elisa Singer.

Stanley Fabricant in memory of Audrey Fabricant at yahrzeit.

Rosalind Shaffer in memory of Sylvia Sandlofer at yahrzeit.

Gale Greenstein in memory of Marvin Quait at yahrzeit.

Mitchell Golub in memory of Charles Golub at yahrzeit.

Gary Schoer in memory of Bernice Schoer at yahrzeit.

Todd Houslanger in memory of William Houslanger at yahrzeit.

Myra Marsh in memory of Marvin Marsh at yahrzeit.

Marilyn Koven in memory of Stanley Koven at yahrzeit.

Carol & Howard Baker in memory of Ruth Baker at yahrzeit.

Jack Cole in memory of Michael Cole at yahrzeit.

Ethel Schwartz Bock in memory of Hannah Sandler at yahrzeit.

Seymour Schpoont in memory of Beverly Schpoont at yahrzeit.

Zoila & Paul Wiseman in honor of the birthday of Ethel Sachs.

Stanley Somer in memory of David Somer at yahrzeit.

The HJC Board of Trustees in memory of Mitchell Norman Kay, son in-law of Carmen, brother in-law of Ami and uncle of Simon Weissberg.

The HJC Board of Trustees in memory of Meyer Ahronee, father of Lisa Golub.

The HJC Board of Trustees welcomes Kathy Brookhart of Melville.

The HJC Board of Trustees welcomes Erik & Remy Rubin of Commack and their daughter, Annie, 1 year old.

The HJC Board of Trustees in honor of the birth of Ryder Jason Sabbag, grandson of Cookie & Mark Cohen.

The HJC Board of Trustees in honor of the birth of Ori Dayan, great grandson of Ellen Kahn.

Richard Klee in memory of Carole Klee at yahrzeit.

Martin Rosenblatt in memory of Sidney Rosenblatt at yahrzeit.

The HJC Board of Trustees in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of **Michael & Marshall Singer**, sons of Marc & Elisa Singer.

MAZAL TOV

Bruce & Sheila Feinberg announce the marriage of their daughter, Alexis, to Joe Avdek.

Mark & Cookie Cohen announce the birth of their grandson, Ryder Jason Sabbag.

Ellen Kahn on the birth of her great grandson, Ori Dayan.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Joel Wirchin in memory of Bernice Wirchin at yahrzeit.

COLLEGIATE FUND

Joan & Norman Mattisinko in honor of their granddaughter, Lois DeLeon.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Molly Weinstein Rencoff at yahrzeit.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the birthday of Jennifer Ingber.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the 97th birthday of Howard Phillips.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Zoe, daughter of Nick & Deb Sakellarios.

DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Rosalyn Haber in memory of Richard Sheldon.

ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND

Mira & Paul Brodsky in memory of Shimmy Kornblatt, wife of Ralph Kornblatt.

Mira & Paul Brodsky in memory of Joel Gleicher, brother of Elaine Epstein.

Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in honor of the birthday of Ethel Sachs.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

Norman Mattisinko in memory of Max Mattisinko at yahrzeit.

Bill Yelen in honor of the marriage of Noah Kantor, son of Lori Sklar, to Ericka Levy.

SOCIAL ACTION/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Tami & Scott Schneider

Ronald Goldstein in memory of Arthur Goldstein at yahrzeit.

Eleanor Siperowitz in memory of Pauline Siperowitz at yahrzeit.

Eleanor Siperowitz in honor of Joan & Norman Mattisinko.

Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in honor of the 60th birthday of Ellen Steinberg.

Elaine Kleinmann in memory of Samuel Butlein

Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in honor of Ron Goldstein.

NEW MEMBERS

Kathy Brookhart of Melville

Erik & Remy Rubin of Commack and their daughter, Annie, 1 year old.

CONDOLENCES

Carmen, Ami & Simon Weissberg on the death of Mitchell Norman Kay, son in-law of Carmen, brother in-law of Ami and uncle of Simon.

Lisa Golub on the death of her father, Meyer Ahronee.

This Month in American Jewish History

American Jews Mobilize to Save Israel October, 1973

Compiled from articles by the JTA and JPS, and the author's personal recollections:

Kol Nidre, 1973, was on Friday night, October 5. I vaguely recall our early Shabbat dinner and services, and everything seemed to be as it should. But in the morning, when we arrived at Schul, there were a few anxious people gathered outside the sanctuary. Someone had heard a morning news broadcast with early reports that war had broken out in the Middle East. As the morning wore on, the noise inside and outside the sanctuary began to overtake the Davening as the bad news spread. Eventually, the rabbi announced from the Bima that Israel had been attacked and invaded by Egypt and Syria early Yom Kippur morning, while nearly every Israeli was in synagogue.

In 1973, with no internet and no 24-hour television news cycle, it took a full day for the enormity of the crisis to become clear. By break-the-fast, the Arabs had won many early victories and gained territory in the Golan, Galil and Sinai. The Israel Defense Forces threw everything they had at the enemy to repel the invasion, which meant that ammunition, bombs, jet fuel and supplies were quickly running low. President Nixon hesitated when resupply became essential, and some say newly appointed Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, advised Nixon to let Israel twist a bit in the wind before any resupply was undertaken.



On October 7, synagogues and Jewish organizations all over America mobilized to pressure the administration to resupply Israel. Time was of the essence, and everyone was urged to come immediately to Washington to march on the White House to demand the resupply. I recall attending that rally, walking down 16th Street to Lafayette Park. Hundreds of buses came from all over the East Coast, delivering thousands of protesters to the doors of the White House. We surrounded the White House grounds and listened to a succession of speakers address their remarks to Nixon and Kissinger. On October 9, American Jewish leaders met in Washington and decided to appeal directly to President Nixon to resupply the IDF, which was totally dependant on American weapons after France withdrew its support in 1967. Nixon signaled his general agreement to the resupply, but did not move quickly. Late that night, Nixon learned that Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir feared

Israel would run out of ammunition, be defeated and that the massacre of Jews promised by the Arabs would complete the



work of Adolf Hitler. She made it clear that, to prevent another Holocaust, Israel's secret stock of atomic and nuclear bombs were already airborne and armed on the bombers, and that the nuclear-tipped Jericho missiles were fueled and ready to fly. The situation was so desperate that these preparations were made openly as a warning to Damascus, Cairo and Moscow.

About that time, Russia threatened Nixon that they would defend Damascus and Cairo. Nixon and Kissinger began to fear the outbreak of nuclear war in the Middle East and the possibility of a nuclear exchange between USA and Russian forces. To avoid that outcome, on the morning of October 10, Washington began an enormous resupply airlift to Israel, and the tide of war began to change. Israel's conventional forces were sufficient, and the threat of nuclear holocaust abated.

On Simchat Torah, American Jews all over the country rallied in support of Israel, and the American airlift grew in scope. An enraged Soviet Union mounted its own resupply of Arab Forces and put its first-to-fight divisions on alert to defend Damascus from the approaching IDF troops. Kissinger warned the Russians that, if they introduced Soviet troops to the struggle, American would enter the fray. As in the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, Russia blinked first. The fighting ended a few days later, with Israel having recaptured all lost territory, as well as invading Syria up to the gates of Damascus, surrounding and capturing an entire Egyptian Army and the Suez Canal, and invading Egypt to within a day's march of Cairo. Nuclear war was avoided, the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Jews was prevented, and the stage was set for Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to make peace with Israel in 1977. All this in Oct. 1973.



HJC Bulletin

October 2017

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The HJC Sisterhood Gift Shop is ready to assist you with all your Judaica and needs and 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!

Purchase your gifts for SUKKOT, SICHAT TORAH and all your simchas all year round!

For more info or to make an appointment, please contact:

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