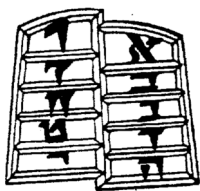
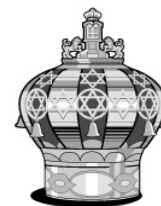


BETH SHALOM / OCEANSIDE JEWISH CENTER



THE BULLETIN



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Volume 15 Number 1

September/October 2008 • Elul/Tishrei 5769



HERE COME THE HIGH HOLY DAYS,
"FOR A CHANGE"

From Rabbi Mark B Greenspan

Dear Friends:

As we approach the High Holy Days, I find myself thinking about the wise men of Chelm (who, as you may know, weren't so wise). These men once engaged in debate about how people grow: do they grow from their head up or from their feet down? According to one group, people grow from their heads up; after all, when you see a marching band everyone's feet are on the same level while some people's heads are higher than the others. According to the second group, we grow from our feet down. We see this with a *Bar Mitzvah* boy. You buy him a suit when he turns thirteen and six months later the pants are too short! Obviously he grew from his legs down!!

The truth is, people don't grow from the head up or the feet down; they grow from their inside out. That is what we seek to do during the High Holy Days. This is a season of self reflection and change. We are challenged to look back at the year gone by and assess the way we lived. In what ways have we succeeded and how have we failed? What were our goals and dreams; did we live up to them? We come to synagogue on the High Holy Days seeking to become the better person God always meant us to be. But that is only possible with an open heart, an honest mind and a willingness to change. It is not an easy process to undertake; it is painful and discomfoting to admit that we have failed ourselves and others. It is hard to acknowledge that we have disappointed our family and our community. It is devastating to admit that we have been less than we thought we could be.

How do we accomplish such change? What does it take to grow from the inside out? I believe it takes three things to enter the path of *Teshuvah*, of personal transformation and change. First, it takes a personal desire and will to change.

If we don't want to change, we won't. Like every journey, change begins with a first step; no one can take that step for us. We must be willing to begin the journey for ourselves.

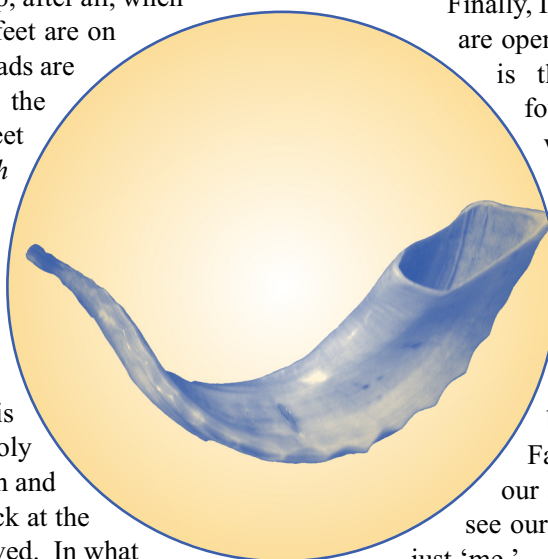
Second, it takes supportive people around us: family, community, and friends. We must be willing to take the first step but sometimes it is helpful to have someone behind us who can give us a nudge and someone in front of us to catch us in case we fall. *Havruta*, camaraderie, is an essential part of our way of life. We are not expected to take the journey through life alone. We join a congregation and we turn to our families so that we have other people to support us and guide us along the way.

Finally, I believe that change is possible when we are open to the presence of God in our lives. It is through our faith that we build a foundation for change and growth. When we say that we believe in a creator, we are saying that there is a purpose and meaning in our lives. It is up to us to find that meaning. When we acknowledge that we are created in the image of God, we affirm the belief that there is a higher self for which we must strive, and that all people should be treated with dignity and respect. Faith in God challenges us to see beyond our self interests and appetites. It asks us to see ourselves as part of something bigger than just 'me.'

As we approach the High Holy Days, I want to wish all of you a *Shanah Tova*; not just a happy New Year, but a good New Year as well. The word *Shanah* comes from the root *shin-nun-hay*, which means both change and repeat. The New Year must be a time of change but there are things worth repeating as well. My prayer for all of you is that the New Year will bring good change and growth to your life but that it will also be an opportunity to continue those values and traditions that enrich your life and that of the people around you. And may each of us grow – from the inside out!!

L'Shanah Tovah,

Mark Greenspan



ADULT EDUCATION UPDATE

On July 30th Dr. Elaine Solowey and David Lehrer of the Arava Institute of Environmental Studies in Israel made an amazing presentation at OJC. The Arava Institution is the leading environmental educational institution in the Middle East. Its founding principal is the training of professionals who not only understand regional environmental problems, but are also committed to regional collaboration to solve them. Dr. Solowey and Mr. Lehrer spoke about the institution in general and specifically about the incredible progress which has been made with a date palm seed.



Their story is as follows:

In 1965, a handful of Judean Date Palm seeds were found in the ruins of Masada. Scientists knew the seeds were old, but didn't know how old. They feared that the process of radiocarbon dating would harm the seeds, and decrease the odds that one of them might germinate. Rather than just planting them to see what happened, the seeds were placed in cold storage.

Four decades later, the seeds were removed from the fridge and finally planted in 2005 with the help of Dr Solowey. Fortunately, one sprouted, and Dr. Solowey is now the proud mother of a bouncing, 4 foot tall Date Palm sapling named Methuselah after the oldest person in the Bible.

It was not until after Methuselah germinated and its future was secured that Solowey was able to examine vestigial fragments of the seed's shell and properly date the date tree. Results confirm that the seed dates back to somewhere between 60 B.C. and 95 A.D, making the seed that spawned Methuselah the oldest documented seed ever to germinate.

This event was sponsored by the Jewish National Fund. As an environmental organization, JNF's partnership with the Arava Institute has helped promote their shared mission of protecting the land and ensuring sustainable development.



BAR/BAT MITZVAHS

JACOB MICHAEL WERTLING....SEPTEMBER 6, 2008

Jacob is the son of Lisa Wertling and David Wertling, and the brother to Rebecca Wertling. Jacob is interested in all sports, especially baseball (Mets) and football (Jets). He loves concept, luxury and sport cars, music, electronics and being with his friends. He was on the OMS Honor roll for 7th grade as well as their undefeated Lacrosse Team. Jacob has a great compassion for children and part of his Mitzvah Project, he researched and purchased needed merchandise for The Ronald McDonald House. One of Jacob's future goals is to become a successful lawyer.

STEVEN HUNTER TEMANSEPTEMBER 13, 2008

Steven is the son of Nadine and Scott Teman, and the brother to Brittany Teman. Steven enjoys playing baseball, basketball, hockey, hanging out with his friends, and spending time with his family. Steven is a member of the OMS track team and is also currently a member of the OMS Honor Roll. He is a very loving and caring young adult. His future career goals are to study in becoming an architect or in the field of building and design.

ZACHARY RYAN ESPOSITO.....OCTOBER 11, 2008

Zachary is the son of Robin Berger-Esposito and the late Carmine M. Esposito, and the brother to Rachel and Emily Carmi. Zachary is a recent Hofstra Middle School Honors Band Recipient who enjoys playing Alto, Tenor, and Baritone Saxophone. In addition to music, Zach's other interests include hunting, playing football, baseball, soccer, swimming, bicycling, computers, video games and hanging out with his friends. He is also on the OMS Wrestling Team. Zachary's future career goals include becoming an Orthodontist or working in the computer industry.

DYLAN JORDAN FINKELOCTOBER 25, 2008

Dylan is the son of Steven and Julie Finkel, and the brother to Evan, Jennifer and Landon. Dylan is a member of the OMS Honor Roll. He enjoys all aspects of football including playing for the Oceanside Stallions, skiing and being with his friends and family. Dylan plans to travel a lot in the future.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

WHAT MAKES YOU FEEL CONNECTED?

by Jolene Boden

During my summer vacation for the last several years, I have hiked and toured some of the natural beauty in this country in the national parks. During those trips, it strikes me over and over...the miracle of the world. Seeing the magnificence of the world, connects me to my belief in G-d. I am fully aware that many people do not share in this connection. So my initial question to you is...what makes you feel connected?

The upcoming High Holy Days are a time that most of us make our most obvious connections to our Jewishness. We have traditions of specific foods that we eat. Many of us gather around the table with our family and/or friends to share in the traditions that we have been given by our families for multiple generations. We often come to the synagogue and connect to our OJC family and friends, sitting near the same people year after year. The second question I have to ask you is... what are you connecting? Throughout the year, there are things that we do that connect us to our Jewish souls. What are those things? Do we connect through actions, through thoughts, through prayers or through memories?

What do all of these connections to the Jewish part of who you are have to do with your connection to the synagogue that you belong to? What role do you want and expect the Rabbi or the leadership to play in your Jewish connection?

The answers to these questions are individual, but they are important. The people that work to make this synagogue the spiritual home of our members are deeply concerned with the wants and the needs of its members.

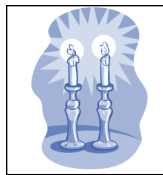
Judaism is marked by many life cycle events. We have ceremonies at birth to introduce the newborn to the rest of the Jewish people. We name them before G-d as a member of our people. Becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a time to celebrate the transition into adulthood. We do this as a congregation, in order to connect this young adult to the history that they are now a part of. Similarly, the wedding is a religious ceremony that includes the words of G-d and stresses the connection to the Jewish people. Finally, in death we gather to celebrate the life of the deceased and to take care of those left behind. We do this as we link generations.

Judaism encourages us to turn to our congregations for solace and celebration at all points of life. We want to see the rabbi when someone we care about is sick, we want to have the presence of our congregation when we suffer a loss and we want to be connected as we negotiate the ups and downs of life.

I encourage you during this holiday season to think about your connection to our people and our traditions. I ask you to reach out to the leadership in our synagogue and let us know what we can do for you. Please share with us what makes you feel connected.

From my family to yours, I wish you a Shanna Tovah, a year of health, success and contentment.

B'shalom
Jolene Boden



SISTERHOOD UPDATE

By Judy Kagan and Barbara Simon

Co-Presidents

As we write this Sisterhood message we are in the High Holiday mode and thinking of the year ahead. The Officers and Chairs of the various committees have worked diligently through the summer to plan new and innovative programs and events for the 2008-2009 (5769) year. Our first event was the Atlantic City trip. Todah Rabah Sandy Nachbar for a wonderful fun day.

Thanks to the wonderful creative efforts of Marilyn Weiss and Jacki Schwartz every female member of OJC should have received the membership mailing and our gift. It is a part of a much larger gift — the gift of friendship and camaraderie that defines our Sisterhood. Pay your dues, give us a try. Join Us!!! We look forward to meeting you at our meetings and special events.

Mark your calendar for the following events.

- Monday, September 8th - Welcome Back Supperette
- Monday, November 10th - Membership Appreciation Dinner
- Monday, December 1st - Special Chanukah Program
- Sunday, December 4th - Holiday Boutique

Watch your mail for details.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of the OJC members who contributed to the success of these summer fundraisers: Calendar, Holiday Cards, Leagrams, Honey Jars, and Holiday Flowers. A hearty Yasher Koach to Marilyn Rothman, Greta Fischer, Iris Kubel and Deena Lafazan for their dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of Sisterhood. A special thank you to Ruby Heiman for the beautiful Anniversary Leagrams we receive throughout the year.

Kudos in our family: Deena Lafazan will be installed as a member of the Board of Directors of Women's League at their biennial convention on Sunday, November 9th in Detroit. Deena has been an integral part of Sisterhood and we are thrilled and proud to recognize her achievement. Mazal Tov !!!

We end our message as we began with thoughts of the coming High Holidays. May your year be filled with peace and prosperity and may you be blessed with health and happiness. L'Shanah Tova!!

**Kol Nidre Appeal:
Will You Answer The Call?**

The Kol Nidre Appeal Committee will be contacting by mail and phone calls asking all of our members to make voluntary contributions to the OJC Annual Kol Nidre Appeal.

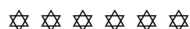
The continued financial support for our synagogue is essential. The Annual Kol Nidre Appeal with a goal of \$60,000 this year is our most important fund raiser for this year. The goal can be reached if we all do our fair share. Every contribution big or small will count—they all add up to success.

Once again a Kol Nidre Report will be sent to all congregants soon after The High Holidays. All pledges/contributions must be received by October 2nd to guarantee listing in the Kol Nidre Report. As always, members can choose to pledge or contribute anonymously.

Listed below are the categories we will use to identify different levels of support. Please participate in the Kol Nidre Appeal and be as generous as you can.

**Will you be listed in the Report this year?
We Hope So!!!**

Bernard Kenner and Ed Simon
CO-CHAIRS, KOL NIDRE APPEAL COMMITTEE



KOL NIDRE APPEAL CATEGORIES

- ☆ Grand Benefactor (\$2500 and over) ☆
- ☆ Chai Scroll of Honor (\$1,800 - \$2,499) ☆
- ☆ Scroll of Honor (\$1,200 - \$1,799) ☆
- ☆ Golden Donor (\$600 - \$1,199) ☆
- ☆ Silver Donor (\$250 - \$599) ☆
- ☆ Bronze Donor (\$100 - \$249) ☆
- ☆ Supporter (\$99 and below) ☆



NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS
by Anita Hoine
EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

The holidays are coming late this year so we are able to get a good start in school. In our wing of the building, school is certainly in session. Our four year olds will begin their Pre-K curriculum, the threes will settle into their daily routines and our Tots and Transitional children have begun their separation from Mom. The onset of school is always a bit shaky. This is why our staff of educated, experienced teachers are always present. In our school, every child is treated as a unique individual and we encourage them to have new experiences. We respect their efforts, applaud their success and encourage them to overcome their failures. A major goal of our program is to instill a positive self image in each and every child.

Our school aims to foster a Jewish identity in all our children. Family programming allows the child and his/her family to share the experiences of learning traditions, holidays and rituals. The family and school can work together to help the children acquire their positive feelings of Judaism.

We will be welcoming back our Nursery School staff. They have begun setting up their rooms, cleaning all our toys and getting prepared for our student arrival. We eagerly wait to meet our new children and welcome back the familiar faces. After the children become accustomed to their new environment, new friends and teachers, it will be the perfect time to begin our holiday curriculum.

The basic philosophy of the OJC Nursery is that pre-schoolers learn through play. Our school provides a well equipped classroom and a challenging, stimulating environment.

On behalf of all of us in Nursery School, we welcome our new Religious School Director, Yitzchak Dees. We wish him all the best as he becomes part of our OJC family.

We look forward to a successful year with childrens' laughter and smiling faces throughout our building!

**BETH SHALOM
OCEANSIDE JEWISH CENTER
MISSION STATEMENT**

"Beth Shalom Oceanside Jewish Center affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, is an egalitarian congregation and a nurturing community which provides opportunities for Jews of all ages and backgrounds to live in the presence of G-d through religious observance, Jewish learning and acts of social responsibility."

**DEADLINE FOR
NEXT BULLETIN
October 16th**

LIBRARY DONATIONS *Paula Spector, LIBRARIAN (764-4213) / Davey LeBoyer, COORDINATOR (766-3244)*GENERAL FUND

Heidi & David Murray and family in memory of Tillie Weinberg, mother of Ellen Duhl.
 Heidi & David Murray and family in memory of Stanley Memis.
 Paula & Steve Goldberg and family in memory of Rob Schneid, husband of Laura, father of Adam, Matthew, David and Ben.
 Harriet & Alan Rothstein in memory of Rob Schneid.
 Davida Zener in honor of OJC Journal Honorees Rob & Laura Steinberg and Peter Stone.
 Karen and Stu, Leigh and Russell Fierstein in memory of Rob Schneid.
 Ellen & Arthur Fox and family in memory of Sylvia Muchnick, mother of Mark.
 Arlene & Richard Fromewick in memory of Seymour Mensch, husband of Florence.
 Thelma Lennhoff in honor of the birth of Alyson Lauren, granddaughter of Barbara & Paul Schwartz, daughter of Adam & Stacey Schwartz.
 Thelma Lennhoff in honor of the birth of Sandy Miller's granddaughter.
 Nadine & Donald Sternberg in memory of Neill Oster, son of Harry.
 Judy & Burt Kaufman in memory of Anne Cain.
 Thelma Lennhoff in honor of Burt Kaufman's special birthday.
 Barbara & Ed Simon in memory of Neill Oster.

CHARLOTTE LeBOYER CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

Julie & Steve Finkel and family in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Sam Anhouse, son of Mallory & Michael.
 Eileen & Victor Mitchnick in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Jake Starr.
 Eileen & Victor Mitchnick in honor of the birth of Liat Chaya Saposh.
 Ben & Harriet Yomtov in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Rowan Blair, daughter of Brian & Sally Yomtov.
 Anita & Louis Hoine in memory of Rob Schneid.
 Barbara & Ed Simon in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Gabrielle Schiller, granddaughter of Natalie & Don.
 Eileen & Victor Mitchnick in honor of the graduations of Jordan Levine and Elias Levine, grandsons of Rita & Sam Levine.
 Eileen & Victor Mitchnick in honor of the Bnai Mitzvahs of their granddaughters, Samantha and Rebecca Mitchnick.
 Paula & Larry Spector in honor of the speedy recovery of Florence Shane.
 Judy & Burt Kaufman in honor of the birth of Kayla, granddaughter of Frances & Buddy Brandt.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Rob Schneid.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the speedy recovery of Florence Shane, Eric Gewurz, and Peter Stone.

Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Seymour Mensch.
 Barbara & Ed Simon in honor of the speedy recovery of Marcia Brecher.
 Nadine & Don Sternberg in honor of the birth of Iris & Jeff Kubel's grandson, Joshua.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Sandra Wolfer.
 Paula & Larry Spector in honor of the birth of Joshua, grandson of Iris & Jeff Kubel.
 Paula & Larry Spector in honor of Marcia Brecher's speedy recovery.
 Paula & Larry Spector in honor of Marilyn Weiss, Sisterhood's Woman of Valor.
 Eileen & Victor Mitchnick in memory of Ellen Kessler's mother.
 Eileen & Victor Mitchnick in memory of Seymour Mensch.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of Marcia Brecher's speedy recovery.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the birth of Alyson Lauren, granddaughter of Barbara & Paul Schwartz.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Martin Resnick, father of Jeffrey.
 Deena & Ben Lafazan in honor of Marilyn Weiss, Sisterhood Woman of Valor.
 Nadine & Donald Sternberg in memory of Seymour Mensch.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Neill Oster.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the engagement of Michael Resnick, son of Anne & Jeff.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the engagement of Rebecca Schwartz, daughter of Barbara & Paul.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the birth of Sandy & Norman Nachbar's granddaughter.
 Ruth & Eric Gewurz in honor of the engagement of Rebecca Schwartz, and the birth of Alyson Lauren Schwartz.
 Lori & Ira Pedowitz in memory of Martin Resnick.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

Miriam Greenburg in memory of her brother-in-law, David Greenburg.
 Ruth & Eric Gewurz in memory of Seymour Mensch.
 Thelma Lennhoff in memory of Gertie Lennhoff.
 Ruth & Eric Gewurz in memory of Paul Gewurz, yearzeit of Eric's brother, and in memory of Leopold Gewurz, yearzeit of Eric's father.

IDA & ISIDORE SCHNISSEL FUND

Marilyn & Marvin Moelis in memory of Rob Schneid.
 Marilyn & Marvin Moelis in memory of Jerome Toder.

CENTRAL HEBREW HIGH SCHOOL

Ani v'ata n'shaneh et ha-olam
(You and I can change the world)

This is the opening lyric to a song popular among American Jewish youth. On April 28, the students of the Central Hebrew High School and their parents learned about an important way we can turn those lyrics into action, as a result of a program on organ donation and transplantation.

Thanks to the thoughtfulness and generosity of the Adam Stark Memorial Fund, the New York Organ Donation Program brought several transplant recipients to tell us how their lives were saved because of the kindness of others. The speakers ranged from a ten year old girl with a new liver, to a 41 year old new heart recipient, to a woman who had received a kidney over 15 years ago. Each brought remarkable personal perspectives to the table. Joy Oppedisano, a nurse with the program, explained the mechanics of signing up to be an organ or tissue donor, as well as what the process is like from both the donor family's and the recipient's perspective. As the audience became involved in the discussion, it became clear how many people's lives are touched by this important mitzvah.

Rabbis Diamond and Greenspan contributed the positive Rabbinic perspective to the discussion. The Stark family shared their own experience in giving the gift of life to others when they lost their son Adam in a tragic automobile accident.

We look forward to valuable programs on vital issues to continue as part of the Stark Memorial Fund in the future and are grateful for the opportunities it provides us to grow as a caring community dedicated to the values of *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world), *Tzedakah* (righteous acts), and *Pikuah Nefesh* (preserving and saving life).

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

We begin the New Year with exciting activities and resources available through our synagogue library. One of the most popular literary trends of the past decade is the upsurge of reading groups and book clubs, and the accessibility of online links and resources to enhance the group experience of reading and discussing the same book. Perhaps you are already a member of a book group, or you've considered organizing one. Join us on Thursday mornings as a dedicated group of congregants and friends meet in the library with Rabbi Greenspan to study Torah and, once each month, engage in a discussion of a noteworthy book of Jewish interest. If you are not available on Thursday mornings, an exciting program is planned for after the holidays with multiple opportunities to explore a book together as a congregation.

Our library's collection is one of the finest in the area, and it continues to grow thanks to our many generous donors whose frequent contributions enable us to purchase the latest books for adults and children. All donations are acknowledged with a personalized note and a bookplate is inscribed for donations of \$15 or more.

Kindly forward your contribution with all pertinent information to:

Davey LeBoyer,
286 East Lexington Ave., Oceanside, NY 11572
or direct it to Paula through the synagogue office.

RECENT ADDITIONS

*FICTION

Indignation, by Philip Roth
Moscow Rules, by Daniel Silva
Sarah's Key, by Tatiana de Mornay
A Day of Small Beginnings, by Lisa Rosenbaum

*NONFICTION

Judaism and Justice, by Sidney Schwarz
The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit, by Lucette Lagnado
Life, Faith, and Cancer, edited by Douglas J. Kohn

*HOLIDAY SELECTIONS FOR CHILDREN

Even Higher, by Richard Ungar
Engineer Ari and the Rosh Hashanah Ride, by Deborah Bodin Cohen
The White Ram, by Mordecai Gerstein

Please call Paula Spector (764-4213) with any questions or comments.

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.....9 AM - 1 PM
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday.....4 PM - 6:15 PM



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

by *Yitzchak Dees*
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

My name is Yitzchak Dees and I'm the new educational director for the religious school. For the past three months, the school board, professional staff and myself have been working out the details of the new school year. Here are some of the highlights.

The classrooms in the upstairs section of the religious school have been renovated and furnished with new tables, bulletin boards and white boards. In addition, we intend to keep the facility orderly and aesthetically pleasing.

After a great deal of discussion, examination of logistics and conversations with parents the school board has decided to reconfigure the religious school days of attendance. In an effort to facilitate scheduling for everyone concerned (students, parents, teachers and professional staff alike) the new schedule is: Grades K-1 Thursdays 4:15-6:15 PM; Grades 2-3 Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:15-6:15 PM; Grades 4-6 Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:15-6:15 PM and Shabbat 9:00-10:30 AM; Grade 7 Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:15-6:15 PM and Sunday with the Rabbi.

As in years past, Rabbi Greenspan will be teaching the book of Exodus to our 6th grade class. New, however, is that he will



Yitzchak Dees

also be teaching Halacha (Jewish law) to the 7th grade and be joining us on Shabbat for the first half an hour of the program.

In an effort to improve Hebrew reading proficiency across the school we are introducing a mentoring style program. This new system matches experienced readers (high school students and adults) with two students for 40 minutes on Tuesdays & Thursdays for what is essentially individualized tutoring. And to get a head start on Bar/Bat Mitzvah training, Cantor Steven Barr will be teaching Trope (Torah cantillation) to the 6th grade class.

This year's teaching staff includes returning veterans Anna Matathias (grades 2-3) and Sarah Nadler (grades 4 & 7), and new to our religious school Dale Gray (grades K-1) and Naomi Greenspan (grades 5 & 6). We are all excited about the great year we have planned ahead of us.

Shana Tovah
Yitzchak Dees

MEMBER'S CORNER

During the Summer months, various members of our congregation devoted a small portion of their valuable time to prepare and deliver a D'var Torah each Shabbat morning. We truly thank all those who participated and we received many positive comments from those in attendance. The individuals who participated also indicated that even though at first they were a bit hesitant, it was a wonderful experience. With our Rabbi's guidance and the available resources for researching each topic, another successful program has been instituted at OJC.

Following is one of the D'var Torahs given by our active board member, Silvia Levy.

This week's Torah portion, Shelach L'cha (send for yourself) describes how God speaks to Moses and commands him to send 12 spies to scout the land of Canaan which he is giving to the Jewish people.

The spies were all honorable and righteous men, one from each of the 12 tribes. Moses was not really interested in the physical spying of the Land, he wanted to investigate the land's spiritual make up. When the spies return, only 2 of them, Caleb and Joshua, bring back positive reports. They see potential in the new land. The other 10 bring back terrifying and negative reports of a cruel land of undefeatable enemies; they are ready to go back to Egypt. The people panic and rebel. God punishes them and says that the previous generation will not be able to enter the Land, that they are not ready for independence – they must die in the wilderness. God calls them an evil congregation and that is how we derive the #10 for a minyan, from this story. The only exceptions to this punishment were Joshua and Caleb.

The Haftorah portion takes place thirty-eight years later. The people have entered the land and NOW JOSHUA IS THE NEW LEADER. He sends two spies, who are unnamed and inexperienced youths - to check out the city of Jericho, even though God promises him explicitly that "every place where the soles of his feet will step on I will give to you" and this story therefore tells of a lack of faith as well.

Joshua's spies pose as salesmen as they arrive at Rahav's Inn just inside the city wall. The king of Jericho hears of their presence and requests that Rachav (which by the way was a kindly prostitute) turn them in. She replies that these men had already left, but in truth, she was hiding them. She asks these men in return for her saving their lives, that she and her family be spared when the Israelites return to destroy Jericho. She knew that God was helping and leading the Israelites to conquer Jericho. The spies return and the Israelites now begin the conquest of the land by destroying Jericho

So, did these 10 spies, that Moses sent out - did they lie about what they had seen? The answer is that NOT everything that is NOT a lie is the truth. The truth is not necessarily as things appear but stems from the depths of the heart, from the source of one's faith. Truth and faith go hand in hand. The spies did not work at finding the truth in God's word. They preferred their limited and deceptive vision, to God's promise. These 10 scouts failed in their ability to see the land accurately. They were

unable to see beyond the reality that confronts them. Their world, like ours, gives them many reasons to fear, to despair and to want to return to their restrictive BUT familiar routine life they led in Egypt. They failed to look at it with faith, they only saw the worst. They forgot that God was guiding them and that miracles happen all the time.

The spies of Joshua were devoted to their mission. They were prepared to overcome every obstacle in their way and were successful. They urged the people not to be afraid, that God will protect them and bring them into the promised land. They possessed faith and total commitment to their mission. Their inner strength dissuaded them from the influence of their frightening experiences and helped them succeed.

There is a lesson to be learned; to have faith and trust in God.

My brother and I learned this lesson from first hand experience.

Our grandparents left Eastern Europe, on a boat, and settled in Cuba, not knowing what to expect, not knowing the language but knowing that they would make it work for the sake of themselves and their family. They were faced with many obstacles but they never gave up.

Our parents faced the same challenges - leaving their homeland of Cuba to better themselves, here in America. They too faced many obstacles - language, customs, food. Yet they looked past these obstacles and saw opportunity for their family to grow and prosper.

It's very easy to give up, to turn around and go back to what you are accustomed to doing but with faith, hope and guidance you can better yourself and move forward.

Volunteers Needed...

Whether you have an hour per week, an hour per month or just one hour...
Get connected.

Please help us assist the most vulnerable members of our community. Bring a smile to a homebound senior with a Friendly Visit; organize a collection of personal care items or non-perishable foods; sort donations for children and families in need; stock the shelves of one of our pantries; connect with a family struggling with financial or other crises.

Please contact Rachel Bruckenstein your
Partners In Caring Liaison
rbruckenstein@friedbergjcc.org or call Rachel
at 516- 766-4341 ext. 131 to get connected.

**F·E·G·S Health and Human Services System's
Partners in Caring Program
launches Project Replenish to mark 5769**

Join forces with synagogues to replenish F E G S food pantries

As the economic downturn continues, more and more families are struggling to keep up with rising costs of gasoline, home heating, electricity, food and other household costs. F·E·G·S is providing more emergency assistance than ever before during a time when resources are decreasing. We need your help!

Begin the High Holidays by joining in the efforts of **F E G S Project Replenish**, a regional campaign to collect donations of non-perishable foods which will help to restock and replenish F E G S food pantries.

The Jewish values of tzedakah and tikun olam guide us to help those who are in need. Particularly during this period of prayer and repentance, our community will help to improve the lives of families in need and, thus, work toward repairing the world. **F E G S Project Replenish** is a meaningful way to raise awareness among our congregation and take action on behalf of those in need throughout our greater community.

Following services on Rosh Hashanah, congregants will receive large paper bags to take home and fill with non-perishable foods which would feed a family of four for a day*.

Congregants should return the filled bags to the synagogue between Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidrei services.

Synagogue volunteers will deliver the filled bags to one of the four F E G S food pantries located in Syosset, Hempstead, Copiague or Central Islip where they will be distributed to hundreds of families in need on Long Island and in Queens.

*To assist a family for a day F E G S suggests the following items:

Breakfast: Box of cereal or oatmeal, dried fruit, powdered milk, 100% fruit juice, granola bars

Lunch: Tuna, peanut butter & jelly, canned fruit, low sodium soup & canned vegetables

Dinner: Canned meats, sauce, macaroni & cheese, pasta, rice, dried beans, canned fruit, applesauce, dried fruit

Beth Shalom / Oceanside Jewish Center

Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

2860 Brower Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572

Main Office (Tel.) 516-536-6112 • (Fax.) 516-536-0347

Religious & Nursery School Office (Tel.) 516-764-4213

Web Site: <http://www.oceansidejhc.org>

Email: mainoffice@oceansidejhc.org

- Mark B. Greenspan..... Rabbi
 - Gadi Elon..... Cantor
 - Yitzhak Lefkovitz..... Cantor Emeritus
 - Steven Barr..... Sexton
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 - Len Lerner..... Executive Director
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 - Anita Hoine..... Early Childhood Director
 - Paula Spector, Davey LeBoyer..... Library
 - Jeffrey Hahn..... Bulletin Editor
 - Karen Wolf..... Assistant Bulletin Editor
- Please submit articles via email to: jlshahn@aol.com
Files should be saved as WORD (.doc) or "text" (.txt).

**Harriet Seifman Inclusion
Committee**

Just 7 months old, the Inclusion committee has identified the special needs of Oceanside Jewish Center community and is working on changes that will enable individuals to have full participation in religious and communal life. Anyone who needs special accommodations to participate in any activity at OJC should contact the president of the arm that is sponsoring the activity. We will be supplying specific contact numbers for activities in the coming year. Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and inclusive New Year.

Selichot 2008

September 20th, 2008 (21 Elul, 5768): 9PM sharp

Jewish Community Center of West Hempstead

711 Dogwood Avenue

West Hempstead, NY

516 481 7448

Call for directions or go to www.jccwh.org



Our Selichot program:

The Jews of Cuba

***Rabbi Barry Dov Schwartz
will offer a slide presentation
of his recent trip to Cuba as
reported in Newsday.***

***Refreshments will be served
9:00-9:30pm.***

Please join us for a combined Selichot Program and Service uniting the Conservative Jewish Shuls in Southern Nassau County:

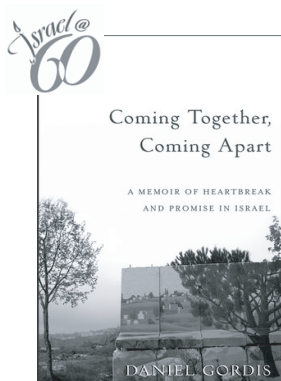
- *Gates of Zion in Valley Stream*
- *South Baldwin Jewish Center*
- *B'nai Israel of Freeport*
- *B'nai David of Lynbrook*
- *Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Center*
- *Malverne Jewish Center*
- *Oceanside Jewish Center*
- *B'nai Sholom of Rockville Centre*
- *Jewish Community Center of West Hempstead*

The Rabbis, Cantors and congregations will come to together to prepare spiritually and emotionally for the High Holy Days. The entire community invited to this special evening of prayer, education and community.

***Teshuvah-Regeneration
Tfillah-Religious Life
Tzedakah-Humane Missions***

Prepare to experience a powerful, multilayered true love story like none you have ever read.

- Inside Jacket



Beth Shalom/Oceanside Jewish Center
Proudly joins SAJES
for the 3rd Annual Jewish Community Read of
Coming Together, Coming Apart
A powerful and tender memoir by Daniel Gordis,
exploring the realities of family life, politics and
culture in Israel today.



Pick up the book now! Discounted copies available in the OJC library!
Read with hundreds of others on Long Island and then join us for
programming here and at other locations...
(Books are available at a deep discount of \$15.00)

Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 8:00 PM
Israel@60: (The Joy, The Sorrow and The Challenge)

Thursday, November 20, 2008 at 11:00 AM
Lunch and Learn Discussion of "Coming Together, Coming Apart"

Saturday, December 13, 2008 (Shabbat Services 9:00 AM)
Bagels and Brachas: "Coming Together, Coming Apart"
A Review with Rabbi Greenspan

About the book: Daniel Gordis made aliyah in 1999, with his family, and has since become an important bridge between Israel and Diaspora Jews. His regular dispatches, originally written for a few email correspondents, are now read by thousands. Readers will be moved by the course their lives take as Daniel and his family hope and grow in Jerusalem from the depths of the Intifada through the Disengagement. Gordis's profound insights about this time cut through the often dispiriting, confusing posturing that often surrounds this issue, leading Alan Dershowitz to call him, with good cause, "one of Israel's most thoughtful observers."

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Preparing the Mind and the Heart for the High Holy Days

Or, How to Survive the High Holy Days!

Everything you need to know to get the most out of HHD services, and the New Year with Rabbi Mark Greenspan

1. Myths and Facts about the HHDs
2. Fundamental Ideas
3. Three Prayers Everyone should Know
4. How to Participate in Services
5. A Guide to Repentance

September 10th and 17th • 8:00 PM following Minyan
In the OJC Hymowitz-Myers Chapel

OJC MINYAN SCHEDULE

FRIDAY EVENING			SHABBAT		
DATE	CANDLES	MINCHA-MA'ARIV	DATE	MORNING	MINCHA-MA'ARIV
Sept. 5th	7:03 AM	7:00 PM	Sept. 6th	9:00 AM	7:00 PM
Sept. 12th	6:52 PM	6:45 PM	Sept. 13th	9:00 AM	6:45 PM
Sept. 19th	6:40 PM	6:30 PM	Sept. 20th	9:00 AM	6:30 PM
Sept. 26th	6:28 PM	6:15 PM	Sept. 27th	9:00 AM	6:30 PM
Oct. 3rd	6:16 PM	6:00 PM	Oct. 4th	9:00 AM	6:15 PM
Oct. 10th	6:05 PM	6:00 PM	Oct. 11th	9:00 AM	6:00 PM
Oct. 17th	5:54 PM	5:45 PM	Oct. 18th	9:00 AM	5:45 PM

HIGH HOLY DAYS & SUCCOTH SERVICES

DATE	HOLIDAY	MORNING SERVICE	CANDLE LIGHTING	MINCHA/MA'ARIV
Mon. Sept. 29th	Erev Rosh Hashanah		6:23 PM	6:30 PM
Tues. Sept. 30th	1st Day Rosh Hashanah Tashlich 5:30 PM	8:30 AM	7:21 PM	6:30 PM
Wed. Oct. 1st	2nd Day Rosh Hashanah	8:30 AM		6:30 PM
Wed. Oct. 8th	Kol Nidre		6:08 PM	6:00 PM
Thurs. Oct. 9th	Yom Kippur Conclusion of Yom Kippur		9:00 AM	4:00 PM 7:06 PM
Mon. Oct. 13th	Erev Succoth		6:00 PM	6:00 PM
Tues. Oct. 14th	1st Day Succoth	9:00 AM	6:59 PM	6:00 PM
Wed. Oct. 15th	2nd Day Succoth	9:00 AM		6:00 PM
Mon. Oct. 20th	Erev Sh'mini Atzeret		5:50 PM	6:00 PM
Tues. Oct. 21st	Sh'mini Atzeret Erev Simchat Torah Community Service at OJC	Early Minyan 6:30 AM (<i>Yizkor</i>) Reg. Minyan 9:00 AM (<i>Yizkor</i>)	6:48 PM	6:15 PM 7:00 PM
Wed. Oct. 22nd	Simchat Torah	9:00 AM		6:00 PM

*A Very Health, Happy, Peaceful & Sweet New Year
to all our members & friends.*





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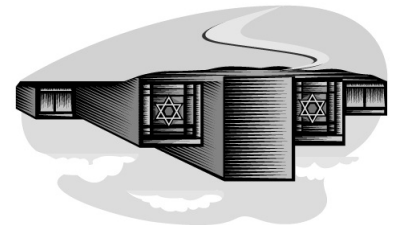
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MANHATTAN: 180 W 76th St. corner Amsterdam Ave. • (212) 873-3500

QUEENS: 98-60 Queens Blvd. and 66th Ave. • (718) 896-5252 • BROOKLYN: 2576 Flatbush Ave. • (718) 284-1500
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