



SHALIYAH

July 2014

Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore
A Community Dedicated to Change and Committed to Tradition

Tamuz 5774

SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICES AT RSNS

Join us at 8:00 p.m. every Friday night, in the Blue Room, during July and August, as we welcome in the Shabbat with song and prayer.

Please consider sponsoring the oneg for one of these shabbatot. Contact the RSNS office for details.

CALLING ALL CONGREGANTS We want you!



RSNS is always looking for congregants interested in joining a committee to help bring new and exciting programming to our membership, to help bring in new members to our synagogue, to find new and creative ways to inspire our children in the synagogue school and to help promote all our exciting events to the members as well as the rest of our local community. Please contact the RSNS office, tell us what your interest are, and we will put you in touch with appropriate committee chairs.

This Issue

- 2 JCC News
- 3 Rabbi Lee
- 4 Youth and Synagogue School News
- 5 Gan Shalom News
- 6 Adult Education and Upcoming Programs
- 7 Todah

WELCOME OUR NEWEST RSNS MEMBERS!

Please join us in welcoming the following families to the RSNS community.

Randy & Christopher Lumi and Benjamin

Dana & Jeremy Rochester, Mia, Zoe and Lila

Leigh & Brian Richards, Julia and Samantha



DONATE OR MAKE A PAYMENT ON OUR WEBSITE

There is an easy and convenient way for you to give a donation to RSNS. Visit our website at RSNS.org and use the "DONATE" link on the left side of the home page. All credit cards are accepted. After you confirm and submit your payment, click on "special Instructions to Seller" to indicate the purpose of your donation or payment. Call the office if you have any questions, 516-627-7274

Watch your August mail and email for High Holiday information.

AUGUST SHALIYAH ISSUE

The deadline for the August 2014 issue is July 15th. To submit content for the AUGUST Shaliyah, email your copy as a word document to rsnsnewsletter@gmail.com



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Wishing you an enjoyable summer from our Partners in Caring Staff!

**We are still available throughout the summer if you are in need of information
and referrals, short term counseling, bereavement, divorce/separation or
caregiver support groups.**

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Every time an RSNS member uses a GoodSearch service, money is donated to the synagogue.

If you haven't yet participated, you can view our dedicated profile below:

<http://www.goodsearch.com/nonprofit/rsns-reconstructionist-synagogue-of-the-north-shore.aspx>

GoodSearch Services:

[GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) - The search engine with a unique social mission. It's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great search results, and each time you search, GoodSearch donates about a penny to your cause!

[GoodShop.com](http://www.GoodShop.com)- The online marketplace that donates a percentage of each purchase to your organization. You can choose from more than 2,500 popular merchants, find more than 100,000 coupons and deals, and the experience of shopping through GoodShop is exactly the same as going to the retailer's websites directly.

[GoodDining.com](http://www.GoodDining.com) - The first 365 day a year Dine for Charity program. Dine in or take out at over 10,000 participating restaurants nationwide. Up to 6% of your total check including tax and tip will be donated to RSNS.

Rabbi Lee

Dear Friends,

I offer some very personal reflections as I anticipate the celebration of our congregation's twenty-one yearlong residence in Plandome (which will have happened by time you receive this letter).

I first entered 1001 Plandome Road with the congregation's president, Sam Blumenthal (of blessed memory) in anticipation of High Holiday services in September 1981. Sam saw my wonder as I craned my neck to take in the soaring height of the ceiling, my eyes open wide. It was all the more magnificent given that our 'sanctuary' in our Roslyn Heights building still had remnants of the time that the room had served as gymnasium and cafeteria for the Willow Street School. "It's really beautiful, isn't it?" Sam asked acknowledging my wonder. "Just don't get used to it," he advised. I could not have imaged then that a dozen years later the building would be ours, thanks very much to Sam's vision and his disregard for process.

So you might think that I would have been eager to move to Plandome once the deal was done. To the contrary, I resisted the move completely. I refused to pack my books or to move a file folder. Though the congregation 'set up shop' in Plandome early that summer, I continued to work at 1 Willow Street. Years before the ubiquity of mobile phones, I was completely isolated from the day-to-day workings of the synagogue office. I prepared for the Holidays sitting on a metal folding chair at a bridge table in an empty building without electricity. It was only weeks after the new owners changed the locks that I had come to

Plandome. You see, that building, as modest as it was, was inspired with memories. It was there that I gave my first (not so well received) Friday night address, and taught my first (much better received) seminar. From its *bimah*, I was welcomed as rabbi of the congregation by my teacher, Ira Eisenstein (z"l), our community's rabbi emeritus (who, years earlier, had warned our Board about the evils that come from building ownership). Both my children – Sara and Ruthie (then Ruth) had been named in the sanctuary. And then there were the other namings, and *b'nai mitzvah*, and weddings, and funerals, and meetings (including the one that lifted our cap on membership from just 150 units, which later necessitated our move), and congregational celebrations. I didn't want to leave the walls that housed those memories.

The inspiring of our present building began with the first naming and the first *bar mitzva* early that fall. With all the many 'firsts,' Plandome quickly became home to me. Now, twenty-one years later, it is the repository of even more memories than Willow Street where we were in residence for only eighteen years. But more than what has passed, we should celebrate all that we are and are still becoming – a vibrant, progressive, diverse community that is housed in a classic mid-century building that, I hope, will be home for us all for many, many, more years to come.

Wishing you a peaceful summer punctuated with a few happy adventures,

Lee



SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to all our families, to all of our teachers and staff, for another great year of RSNS Synagogue School! Use the following link to view a recap of this past year
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMHMkAgSib4&feature=youtu.be>

All Synagogue School and Teen programming, and PJ Library are on vacation for the summer and will resume in September. Watch your snail mail and email for information and registration forms for updated information. And please return all registrations forms as soon as possible.



Our Seven Week Summer Program is underway. We are so excited - our toddler playground has a new look – we have added a fabulous new climber. We're having lots of fun splashing in the sprinkler, using the inflatable slide and making new friends. Each week our music specialist Laurie Anne delights the children with songs and musical games. We are looking forward to Water Week, Crazy Hat Day and Pajama Day. Super Soccer Stars for 2 and 3 year olds will continue on Wednesday mornings and we've added a Kick and Play Soccer class for children 18-24 months on Mondays during the summer.

We will be using red, white and blue collage materials and eating red, white and blue treats to celebrate Independence Day. During the month of July we will be exploring the world of fish and beach life.

Our Outdoor Classroom continues to add pleasure to our curriculum during the summer months. We are looking forward to picking and eating vegetables from our garden this summer.

Registration continues for our fall classes for 2's, 3's and 4's.

Don't delay - call the nursery school at 516-627-0257 to register your child.

Laura

ADULT STUDIES AND SEMINARS

Our congregation began its history with a seminar on Reconstructionism. It was only after a few years of people coming together to study the writings of Mordecai Kaplan that they decided to hold Shabbat and holiday services. By our engaging in these seminars, we keep alive the intention of our founders, that our spiritual experiences be tied to a self-conscious approach to Judaism grounded in an understanding of the Jewish People's history.

Bible Study, Zionism Seminar, Cantor' Study Dinner, Women's Rosh Hodesh and Men's Group are all on vacation for the summer. Watch your email for updates. Dates for next year will soon be available on our website calendar <http://rsns.org/news-and-events/calendar>

YIDDISH READING CIRCLE

We meet on average, every other week on a Friday at 10:00 a.m. in the RSNS Library. For more information and a schedule contact Jerry Bloom at 466-2519.

ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH GROUP

Our formal studies will resume in the fall of 2014 and culminate in a joint B'nai Mitzvah **service on June 20, 2015**. These next two years will be exciting and very busy.

Todah . . . RSNS' Way of Saying Thanks

In honor of Carrie Siff's retirement
Joelle and Geoff Serota

In honor of Ella Siff-Scherr becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Sandy Wolkoff

In honor of Debbie Kesselman's help
Sandy Wolkoff

In honor of Mary Felman
Paula and Rob Whitman

In honor of the engagement of Cary Adickman
and Sarah Farhadian
Lisa and Randy Sloan
Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff

In honor of the marriage of Faith Black
and Morgan Ross
Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff

In honor of Rabbi Lee's Shabbat Seminar
Roma Connable

In honor of Rabbi Lee's Bible Study
Roma Connable

In honor of the Men's Group
Roma Connable

In honor of June Pitkow's birthday

Marlene Pikow
In memory of Daniel Tromberg, son of Susan
and Jules Kaufman
Nathalie Solzberg
Harriet Feiner
Michele and Michael Weiden

MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov to Viviane and Alan Kovacs on the engagement of Andrew Kovacs and Amanda Woo.

Mazel Tov to Carrie and Sandy Siff on the birth of their newest grandson, Brady, born to Lyndie and Cory Fasold.

Welcome to Liam Mitchell Johns, new brother of Emma Johns, and son of Stephanie Jacobs and Scott Johns.

Mazel Tov to Barbara and Bob Zimmerman on the engagement of Arielle Zimmerman and Matthew Cohen

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Kirby Veevers and family on the death of her father Alan Douglas.

YARZEIT

In observance of the yarzeit of Florence Miller Naomi Weinberg.

GAN SHALOM

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<http://rsns.org/gan-shalom-nursery-school/>

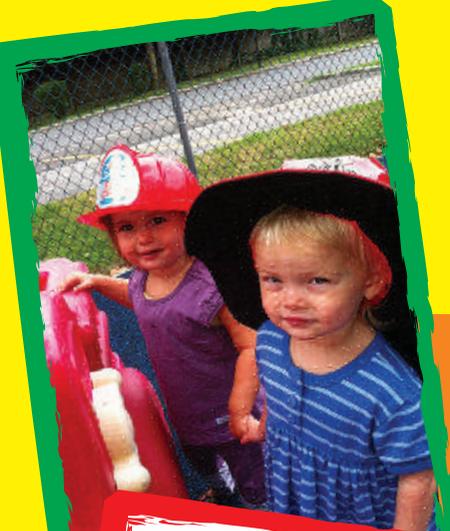


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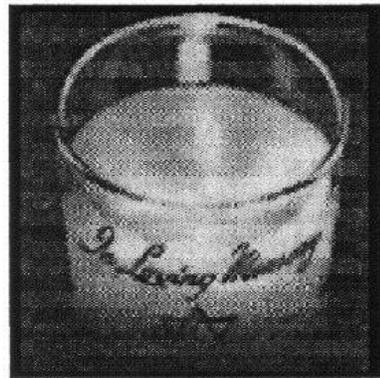
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