



# SHALIYAH

June 2014

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

Sivan 5774



## **ATTENTION: SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL PARENTS**

Registration is underway for Synagogue School for the 2014-2015 academic year. Families of students who attended this year have already received registration forms by mail. **Please complete the emergency contact information** on the registration form, check the accuracy of all other information and return the completed form to RSNS with a deposit of \$250 per student as soon as possible. You will be billed over the summer for the balance of tuition. As usual tuition will be due in full by September 1.

To register a child who has not yet attended our Synagogue School, stop by the office or call and we will mail you a registration form. Non-members are welcome to register for kindergarten and alef (first grade) based on available space. You must be a synagogue member to register for second grade.

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## **SHAVUOT SERVICES AND STUDY**

**Tuesday, June 3**

**7:30 p.m. Service**

**8:45 p.m. Study Session**

Details on page 3.

## **SPRING FUNDRAISER**

June 14<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 p.m.

Celebrate our 21<sup>st</sup> year in Plandome.

## **JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – 5:00 P.M.**



### **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](http://RSNS.org) and use the "DONATE" link near the top right side of the home page. All credit cards are accepted. Call the office if you have any questions, 516-627-6274.

### **JULY SHALIYAH ISSUE**

The deadline for the July 2014 issue is June 15<sup>th</sup>. To submit content for the JULY Shaliyah, email your copy as a word document to [rsnsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rsnsnewsletter@gmail.com)



**Parenting ♦ Caregiving ♦ Marital Concerns ♦ Separation/Divorce ♦ Bereavement  
Geriatric Care ♦ Cancer Wellness ♦ Career ♦ Legal ♦ Financial**

A caring place to turn to find support and guidance during life changes and challenges.

For individuals living with cancer and their families, life is full of unexpected obstacles. They are confronted daily with complicated medical jargon, frightening choices and ongoing isolation. While doctors work tirelessly to combat the disease, they are too over-burdened to care for the emotional and exercise needs of their patients.

Where the doctors and hospitals end, Sid Jacobson JCC's Strength to Strength Wellness Programs begin. Strength to Strength provides specialized exercise and supportive discussions tailored to the practical and emotional issues of cancer survivorship all free of charge and open to the whole community. Participants in the program span from the newly diagnosed, those in the throes of chemotherapy and radiation treatment and those who have recently completed treatment.

"Strength to Strength offers a place for people to go to be with others who have similar concerns about their cancer diagnosis. They share information, support and, at times, laughter. In time, they become stronger both emotionally and physically," Randy Hight, LCSW, and coordinator of Strength to Strength, says. "Members appreciate that the group and all of its services are free, since dealing with cancer is often a strain financially."

Funded in part by the 8th Annual 5K Run/Walk & Children's Fun Run. This year's event will be held on Sunday, June 8 at Sid Jacobson JCC.

For more information about the 5K, visit [www.sjjcc.org/5k](http://www.sjjcc.org/5k) or contact Bridgette Adair, Development Coordinator, at 516-484-1545, ext. 141, [badair@sjjcc.org](mailto:badair@sjjcc.org).

For more information about Strength to Strength contact Randy Hight, LCSW 516-484-1545 x213

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Randy Hight, LCSW

Margy Ringelheim, LMSW

Audrey J. Bernstein, LMSW

Michelle Laser, Director of Social Services

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Phone calls are always free and confidential.

## Rabbi Lee

Dear Friends,

Several years ago, I attended an educator's conference at which Dr. Ron Wolfson, an important voice in affective Jewish education, delivered the keynote address. Dr. Wolfson spoke about the importance of people over programs in synagogue life. "Synagogues should be about people first, programs to meet the needs of those people second, and buildings and budgets to support the programs third. But your synagogue websites belie this priority. In anticipation of my being here this morning, I perused all your websites," he continued. "All but one has a picture of your synagogue building. Let me assure you, no one looking for a congregation joins a building."

Two years later, volunteers Peter Scherr, Matt Harris and Brian Lefkowitz, have helped produce a website inspired by Dr. Wolfson, which reflects who we truly are. The ever-dynamic photo gallery pictures PEOPLE of all ages engaged in a wide range of activities only some of which take place within our synagogue building. The website illustrates a community that embodies the Reconstructionist principle that Jewish expression extends beyond religious ritual and practice to include acts of social justice, opportunities for learning, celebration of holidays, of communal retreat, and of generations together.

In 1964, Marshall McLuhan coined the phrase, "The medium is the message." Our new synagogue website certainly proves the power of that phrase. It pictures a Jewish community unrestrained by walls embracing the all of Jewish life.

With appreciation to Peter, Matt and Brian, and in celebration of their efforts, I am, as always, warmly,  
*Lee*

## SHAVUOT SERVICES AND STUDY

**Tuesday, June 3**

**Service 7:30 p.m.**

**Study Session 8:45-9:45 p.m.**

Although the celebration of Shavuot has become all but vestigial in many liberal Jewish communities today, it was one of the "Big Three" in biblical times. Tied to the agricultural cycle of *Eretz Yisraayl*, its observance began to wane after the Roman exile. The Rabbis were quick to give it a historical significance to ensure its observance away from the land. They tied it to the giving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai.

Our congregation will celebrate Shavuot on **Tuesday evening, June 3 with an hour-long service beginning at 7:30 p.m. (which will include Yizkor)**. Immediately following the service, we will share desserts in the social hall and engage in an hour-long study session. This year's Shavuot study topic: Eating and Torah: Connections Ancient and New. Why do we eat cheesecake on Shavuot? Did your grandparents eat honey off of Hebrew letters when they started Hebrew school?

Please join us for any part of the evening. If you can, please bring some baked goods to share for the *oneg*. Since Torah has been described as the equivalent of mother's milk for the Jewish People, cheese cake is especially appropriate.

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### B'YAHAD

The B'yahad program is an ongoing Saturday morning family service and education experience. All families are encouraged to attend every B'yahad session. This will act as a reinforcement of our prayer program. **The program will be taking a summer break and will meet again in the fall.**

### PJ LIBRARY

**Stay tuned for more exciting events starting this Fall.** To learn more about this program go to the following link [www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org)

#### **A Service to Recognize Graduates**

We will celebrate our graduates at an hour long service on **Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** We will recognize all graduates – from nursery school, from elementary school, from middle school – but will especially celebrate students graduating from High School. We hope graduates and their families will come together for this special evening.

If you would like to read an English reading (selected by Rabbi Lee), please contact Sharon in the RSNS office at [sharonrsns@optonline.net](mailto:sharonrsns@optonline.net) or call 627-6274. To contribute goodies for the oneg Shabbat, email Tracy Lefkowitz at [BTJL@optonline.net](mailto:BTJL@optonline.net)

Looking forward to seeing you,

*Rabbi Lee, Rabbi Jodie, Cantor Eric*

### Or Hadash - For Grades 4- 6

Are your children going into grades daled through vav (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade) in September 2014?

Do they like seeing new places, hanging out with your friends, and tikkun olam (fixing the world)?

Do they you wish they were old enough for Keshet Hadash (the fantastic RSNS Teen Group)?

Then they need to join Or Hadash, the junior youth group at RSNS! Watch for registration over the summer.

### TEENS

#### Keshet Hadash

**Are you (or do you have) a teen, grades 8-12? Then WATCH YOUR MAIL (both e- and snail) for information about all our exciting programs for the fall!**

#### Boy's Group – Bros Hodesh

Thanks, everyone for a great year! Don't forget to fill out your forms for next year! The sooner we have everyone "on the books," the sooner we can budget and plan for a great year ahead!

If you're a boy in grades 8-12, please RSVP to Cantor Eric, or join our Facebook group! <http://www.facebook.com/groups/187609124592536/>

**Girl's Rosh Hodesh** – We intend the program to demonstrate to teenage girls Judaism's commitment to their growth and well-being. 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade girls may join this special "girls only" group. **The program will be taking a summer break and will meet again in the fall.**



## 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>

**Read our Synagogue School BLOG. Get all the latest news on what the children are learning in Synagogue School AND see pictures of the great things they are doing.**

**Here is the link to the blog... <http://rsnsschool.wordpress.com/>.**



We can hardly believe that it's June and nursery school is almost over. All our classes are reflecting on the fun they've had this year. We are remembering all the delicious treats we've cooked, the special celebrations for the Jewish holidays and Shabbat, the trips we've taken, the exciting art experiences we've had, and all the lasting friendships we've made. It's been so rewarding working with the children and their families this year. It's been wonderful having moms, dads, and grandparents participating in our classrooms.

Our entire staff joins in congratulating the following children and their families on their graduation from Gan Shalom:

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Jake Doscher     | Ella Friedrich       |
| Emma Johns       | Zoe Lazar            |
| Marleigh Pikoos  | Jonah Portugal       |
| Princeton Pinsky | Mattea Rajah-Mandery |
| Ethan Ramolia    | Lila Rochester       |
| Eden Rosenberg   | Heidi Stevens        |
| Hudson Stevens   | Parker Yuttal        |

**Our Moving-Up Ceremony for our fours class will take place on Friday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.**

**All other classes will have a Shalom Celebration with parents on their last day of class, Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Thanks to Parent Council for all they do to make our nursery school a success. The hard work of so many parents has contributed to the enjoyment of so many programs for the children and their families.

A special thanks to all of the teachers in the nursery school. We are blessed to have a hardworking, nurturing, enthusiastic and imaginative staff.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!

*Laura*

### **USING GOODSEARCH FOR YOUR ONLINE SERVICES HELPS RSNS**

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.

## **ADULT PROGRAMS and EDUCATION**

### **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. To that end, Rabbi Lee will offer the following biweekly seminars. **These seminars will be taking a summer break, but will meet again in the fall.**

### **BIBLE STUDY**

Our seminar meets every other Thursday evening from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. Previous experience is not required. We will resume in October 2014.

### **SHABBAT SEMINAR**

We meet every other Saturday afternoon from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. We will resume in October 2014.

### **CANTOR'S DINNER & STUDY GROUP**

**The program will be taking a summer break and will meet again in the fall.**

### **MENS GROUP**

The Men's group meets the second Wednesday of every month to discuss topics of interest selected by members. While the discussion starts off with a selected topic the meetings move in many directions and are a wonderful way for members to get to know one another. All men in the congregation are invited to attend. The last meeting of the Jewish year is **Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** The topic for discussion will be: *If you could change one event either personal or not so personal in your lifetime, what would it be?*

**Don't forget our annual luncheon on June 25<sup>th</sup>.**

### **WOMEN'S ROSH HODESH GROUP**

Traditional religious ritual was designed, and continues, to meet a variety of needs that relate to life passages: The need for the individual to be acknowledged by community, the need for the community/tribe to read itself into the passages of each member, the need for bonding, which serves both individual and community, the need to (re-)enact dramatically the great stories and messages of the tradition, for the sake of individuals and of the tradition. Through rituals, we create structures that provide an element of predictability and, therefore, safety, around times of insecurity, transition, and/or loss.

All women of our congregation are welcome to join us as we continue to study, and learn from each other. This year we will study the Torah portion of the week through women's commentaries. **The program will be taking a summer break and will meet again in the fall.**

### **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 Ella Siff-Scherr becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
Leslie and Larry Popkin  
Marilyn and Gene Grayson  
Rhoda and George Shapiro  
Marian Schwartz

In honor of the engagement of Cary Adickman  
and Sarah Farhadian  
Michele and Michael Weiden  
Sheri and Michael Lindner  
Sharon Dobbs

In honor of Suzie and Lenny Stein's  
new granddaughter  
June and Alvin Pitkow  
Leslie and Larry Popkin  
Audrey and Andy Feiner

In honor of Michele and Michael Weiden's  
new grandbabies  
June and Alvin Pitkow  
Leslie and Larry Popkin  
Dinah and Marc Kramer  
Sheri and Michael Lindner  
Audrey and Andy Feiner  
Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff

In honor of John Miodownik's photography  
Nathalie Solzberg

In honor of the marriage of their grandson,  
Jordan Mandel to Diana Choksey  
Florence and David Martin

In memory of Gil Paisner  
Susan and Sheldon Manspeizer  
Audrey and Andy Feiner

In memory of Al Connable  
Ilse Sander  
Alice Nathan  
Marilyn and Gene Grayson

In memory of Anne Newiger  
Marian Newiger

Get well wishes to Roseann Michelson  
Harriet Feiner

**IN HONOR OF OUR  
SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL TEACHERS**

In honor of our K/alef teachers, Rabbi Jodie  
and Cantor Eric

Traci and Vic Levy

In honor of Morah Miriam Miller

and Morah Shoshana Salomon  
Heath, Sara, Ian and Samuel Levine

**YARZEIT**

In observance of the yarzeit of Leo Ladman  
Leslie and Larry Popkin  
JoAnn and Arthur Rock

In observance of the yarzeit of Alfred Szylit  
Sharon and Steven Singer  
Alice Szylit

In observance of the yarzeit of Fran Dunaisky  
Alvin Dunaisky

In observance of the yarzeit of Martin Whitman  
Paula and Rob Whitman

**Consider making a donation  
in honor or in memory of someone,  
or to celebrate a simcha!**

**MAZAL TOV**

Mazel Tov to Joan and Marty Adickman on the  
engagement of their son, Cary and Sarah Farhadian

Mazel Tov to Florence and David Martin on the  
marriage of their grandson Jordan Mandel and  
Diana Choksey

**CONDOLENCES**

Condolences to Susan and Jules Kaufman on the  
death of their son Danny Tromberg

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Contact Laura Reich, Director  
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[ganshalom@optonline.net](mailto:ganshalom@optonline.net)

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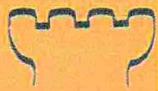
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