



SHALIYAH

Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore

JUNE 2016

A Community Dedicated to Change and Committed to Tradition

Iyar/Sivan 5776



YOGA SHABBAT

Saturday, June 11th, 8:15 - 9:30 a.m.

Experience Shabbat through movement; connecting body, mind and soul. This Shabbat Yoga program is taught by Rabbi Jodie Siff. Good for all levels, adults and post b'nai mitzvah teens, non-members welcome.

Bring your own mats and yoga props (we have a few if you forget yours). Wear comfortable work out attire. This will be the last session until September. And watch for information on a NEW weekly Friday morning session. If you have questions please Email Rabbi Jodie Siff at rabjodie@optonline.net

FAMILY SERVICE TO HONOR GRADUATES

We will celebrate our graduates at an hour long service on Friday, June 3rd beginning 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.

To contribute goodies for the oneg Shabbat, contact Hope Pecullan (hpecullan@gmail.com)

Summer Shabbat Services

Every Friday at 8:00 p.m.

Please join us and consider sponsoring an oneg. Call Sylvia in the office at 516-627-6274 for answers to all your questions.

Join us to Celebrate Shavuot Sunday, June 12, 9:45 a.m.



The most vestigial of the three pilgrimage holidays, Shavuot celebrates the most significant event in our People's history – the giving of the Torah. We will celebrate this holiday, which the Kabbalists saw as the marriage of Torah and the Jewish People, with a *huppa* at the Torah and the reading of a medieval *ketuba* at services on **Sunday morning, June 12 beginning at 9:45 a.m. *Yizkor* will be included in the service.** Since Torah is called the 'milk of God', we invite people to bring cheesy foods for the *kiddush* following services. Plan to join us for the final festival of the liturgical year.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 7:30-11:00 p.m.

If you did not RSVP and would like to attend, or purchase a puzzle piece, please call the RSNS office at 516-627-6274.

JULY SHALIYAH

The deadline for the July 2016 issue is June 15th.

To submit content for the JULY Shaliyah, Email your copy as a word document to rsnsnewsletter@gmail.com



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

Are you considering changing career paths?
Are you returning to the world of work after
sometime off from employment?
Have you recently lost your job and do not want to delay
in landing a new, meaningful position?
Are you looking for a chance to talk directly with hiring managers?

SAVE THE DATE!
SJJCC'S Career Connect of Long Island
Career Fair

Wednesday, June 22, 2016
2:00pm - 5:00pm
300 Forest Drive
East Hills, NY 11548
FREE!

Pre-registration preferred. Go to <https://onlineedge.sjjcc.org/OnlineEdge/event89.html>

PARTNERS IN CARING STAFF

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Audrey J. Bernstein, LMSW
Michelle Laser, LCSW, Director of Social Services
Margy Ringelheim, LMSW
Chana Topek Diamond, LCSW

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RABBI LEE

Dear Friends,

A few seedlings were just starting to pierce the surface of the garden when I moved into my house in Roslyn in early spring 1986. By late June, much of the garden was in full bloom. Three-year-old Sara spent July and August mornings picking “just four things” from the garden from which I would make lunch, a reward for her efforts. I found great pleasure in all of this, particularly because I had never harvested anything in my life having grown up in an urban neighborhood where the yards were cement, and where the trees were collected in special museums called parks.

Given my lack of experience, it should have come as no surprise that I thought that the garden was ‘broken’ the following spring when the raised beds were barren except for some weeds. “What did I do wrong,” I asked an elder in the congregation who was fabled for his green thumb. “What did you plant?” “Plant? Plant what?” It didn’t take long for ‘the Gardener’ to appear with tomato plants in hand and with some mature lettuce and pepper plants, too. He taught me how to feel and smell the soil that day, and how firmly to pack the earth around the plants. He noted that what I pulled as weeds was rosemary and thyme that had survived the winter, gifts from a mild winter.

Since Sara left for college and then for the world twelve years ago, two of the four beds have been taken over by ivy. A third bed is wild with mint and a withering patch of strawberries. The fourth has been dedicated to herbs – weeds with a purpose. For the past decade, the first sign of spring for me have been the chives that came in April this year. The sage planted five years ago is now at waist height, and last year’s thyme spills over the corner of the bed onto the lawn. The oregano threatens to over-run the single stalk of parsley that receded once more. Given my extraordinary losses this winter and all the subsequent packing up and cleaning out that’s yet to be done, I have not had the time (nor will I), to reintroduce rosemary, tarragon (which never takes), and basil into the bed. But no matter; I find comfort enough in what Nature has given me – undeserved regeneration even in the Shadow of Death.

I wish all of you a summer of growth and regeneration and ease.

Warmly,

Lee

YOUTH PROGRAMS

PJ LIBRARY

Join us for our final **PJ Library** for this school year, on Wednesday **June 8th at 5:30 p.m.** We will be celebrating Shavuot. Not a PJ Library member yet? It's never too late for your child to start receiving these free Jewish books each month.

Visit www.pjlibrary.org to sign up.

**WATCH YOUR MAIL FOR
2016-2017 TEEN REGISTRATION
INFORMATION**

Please return your Synagogue School registration!

TEENS: grades 8-12

Boy's Group – Bros' Hodesh

Final meeting until fall is our annual BRO-BBQ on **Sunday, June 12th at 6:00 p.m.**

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 – Our final meeting until fall will be on **June 7th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**



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:

Eve Benjamin
Cooper Blank
Charles Cafasso
Matthew Corti
Addison Craig
Sara DeLeeuw
Sophie Donovan
Isabella Doscher

Adam Gantwarg
Zach Giordano
Avi Gross
Maya Gross
Samuel Mendel
Hannah Moses
Xanthe Pikoos
Lily Pisnoy

Lyra Prestia
Samantha Ramolia
Sophia Sharaf
Piper Thomas
Corinne Zwerlein
Jacob Zubrow

- **Our Moving-Up Ceremony for our fours classes will take place on Friday, June 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.**
- **The 2's class will have a Shalom Celebration with parents on the last day of class – Friday, June 10**
- **The 3's classes will have a Shalom Celebration with parents on the last day of class – Friday, June 10**

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

ADULT STUDIES AND SEMINARS

EAT, READ, TALK

Rabbi Lee continue his Thursday afternoon program at **12:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 9th**. He will present an article “ripped from the headlines” of Jewish relevance. Feel free to bring a dairy lunch and we’ll supply the hot drinks and the article to be discussed.

BIBLE STUDY

This group has been and continues to be committed to reading every word of the Hebrew Bible (in English translation). After more than a decade and a half, the group has reached the last third of the Bible. We will pick up the reading with the Book of Psalms, which will occupy us for most of the year. This seminar meets biweekly on Thursday nights from 8-9:30 p.m. **Our next meetings are Thursday, June 2nd and 16th**

SHABBAT SEMINAR

The History of Israel: A Documentary Approach. We began our examination of Zionism seven years ago through the lens of the writings of Zionist and anti-Zionist ideologues. Last year we arrived at the end of the Six Day War and concluded with the Yom Kippur War. We will continue to critically review the development of the State through original political and sociological documents. This seminar meets biweekly on Shabbat afternoons 12-1:30 p.m. **Our next meetings are June 4th and 18th.**

DONATE or PAY ON OUR WEBSITE

Go to <http://rsns.org/giving> and follow the directions. Call the office if you need help (516-627-6274). All credit cards accepted on our website.

ENGAGING WITH AGING

Our final meeting before the summer, facilitated by Audrey Bernstein, is set for **Thursday, June 2nd from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.** We’ll meet in the Blue Room, as usual. Please encourage other members who may be interested to join us.

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.

Our final meeting until September is June 8th from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

MENS GROUP

The Men's Group meets the second Wednesday of each 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 final meeting before the fall (September 14th is the first fall meeting) is on **Wednesday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m.** Coffee and some snacks will be available.

What keeps you up at night?

YIDDISH READING CIRCLE

We meet on average, every other week on a Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the RSNS Library. For more information and a schedule contact Jerry Bloom at 516-466-2519.

Community Corner

This column is an outshoot of the Engaging with Aging meetings Carol Blumenthal has been running for the past year, which itself is an outgrowth of our community's CBCO efforts that Carol, Alice, Harriet and others spearheaded over the past several years. We found that so much valuable information and so many powerful personal stories bubbled up during the meetings that we needed a way to share what we've learned with the larger RSNS community. Over time, we hope that this column will grow into a place for members from every pocket of the RSNS community to share their stories.

Chavurah Dinners

By Rachel Mankowitz

For our first full year at RSNS, my mom went to chavurah dinners once a month, and I stayed home. Everyone brought a part of the meal (dessert, salad, vegetable, side dish, challah, wine, etc.) and met up at a house or apartment where the host was responsible for the main dish (chicken) and a discussion topic. Mom would come home hours later filled with stories and smiles, so when I was asked to join the Chavurah the next year, I said yes.

I am, by far, the youngest member of this Chavurah. I made appetizers for my first dinner: Chinese dumplings and mini knishes, because I wanted to make a good impression, and I was very nervous that I wouldn't. I learned that, usually, appetizers are just cheese and crackers, and that I had made way too much food for so few people. But I also learned that they were a (very) appreciative audience for whatever I chose to make.

We lit candles before dinner that first night, and said the blessings over the wine and the challah. Over coffee and dessert, we had a discussion related to a Jewish issue. I think that time it was Jewish education, and I was able to join in. We didn't sing Shabbat songs, or run our own Friday night service, so it was mostly like a dinner party, with the Shabbat candles flickering in the background.

The conversations at these Friday night dinners are addictive. Everyone has followed their own trail to Reconstructionist Judaism. Some, like me, came from more religious upbringings and craved something with more freedom and more willingness to adapt and change. Some people came from unaffiliated upbringings, and wanted a place to feel connected to other Jews without having to buy in to all of the religious stuff. Some grew up without much Jewish education and saw the synagogue as a daunting place, until they found this community, where they were able to learn as much or as little as they wanted to and still feel accepted and part of things. Most of the time people are interrupting each other with one story after another.

Every once in a while there's a pause in the conversation, when an old drama has re-surfaced that no one wants to talk about. I keep trying to find out more of the juicy gossip of the synagogue, but I can only get it in bits and pieces.

My favorite thing has been hearing about the lives of the other Chavurah members. There was the night when three WWII vets sat on a couch during hors d'oeuvres and reminisced about where they were stationed during the war. There are stories about recent trips to China, and Antarctica, and, of course, Israel. They are so busy and so full of life, and since I don't have the energy to keep up with them, I live vicariously through their stories.

I'd love for more people to have the opportunity to get to know the older members of the congregation, because they have so much to say. It's about more than just food (though you gotta have the food) or conversations (ditto), it's about feeling like you are part of a community.

If you have a story you would like to share with the RSNS community, contact Rachel Mankowitz at rachelmank@earthlink.net.

Todah . . . RSNS' Way of Saying Thanks

In honor of the birth of Charles Nathan Ross,
grandson of Roslyn and Gil Ross
Michele and Michael Weiden

In honor of the naming of Shay Reisman,
granddaughter of Karen and Dennis Reisman
Leslie and Larry Popkin

In honor of the marriage of Nachie to Alexa,
grandson of Naomi Weinberg
Judy Ludwig Levine

Mazel tov to the Packer family on Becca becoming
a Bat Mitzvah
Judy Ludwig Levine

Mazel Tov to Sadie Brett-Chin, Lauren Murphy,
Rebecca Packer, Nat Cohen, Alexa Nappi, Elena
Lynn, and Danielle Gruber on becoming b'nai mitzvah
Susan and Tom Hicks

Mazel Tov to Alexa Nappi on becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Jocelyn Wasserman

In honor of the engagement of Julia Jankowska
and Eric Schaffer
Michele and Michael Weiden

In honor of Jonah Giblin, grandson of Florence and
David Martin becoming a Bar Mitzvah

In memory of Robert Moskowitz, father
of Lisa Sloan
Susan and Paul Baumgarten
Leslie and Larry Popkin
June and Alvin Pitkow
Susan and Tom Hicks
Tammy Smiley and Alan Ederer

In memory of Leon Weinstock, father
of Rob Weinstock
Ellen Brown and Bob Schwartz
Thelma Rahinsky

In memory of Irma Marx, mother of Kenny Marx
Rachelle Krieger and Damon Gersh

In memory of Helen Friedlander
Judy and Al Bieber
Sheila Sherman
Karen and Elton Strauss
Shirley Meyers
Alice Kleiman
Marilyn and Morris Scherr
Maggie and Daryl Hoffman
Roseann and Allen Michelson
Ellen Brown and Bob Schwartz
Ruth Silverman

In memory of Fern Aaronson, sister of Rabbi Lee
Shirley Meyers
Maggie and Daryl Hoffman
Ellen Brown and Bob Schwartz
Ruth Silverman

In memory of Leon Maissel, father of Joe Maissel
Susan and Tom Hicks

In memory of Harold Krainin, father of Rick Krainin
Susan and Tom Hicks
June and Alvin Pitkow
Harriet Feiner
Michelle and Michael Weiden
Paula and Rob Whitman
Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff
Tammy Smiley and Alan Ederer

In memory of Marilyn Grayson
Ilse Sander
Doris and Mike Starr

In memory of Jacob Rosenberg, father
of Dawn Rosenberg McKay
Susan and Tom Hicks
June and Alvin Pitkow
Seth Starr and Laurie Kramer Starr
Harriet Feiner
Tammy Smiley and Alan Ederer
Joan Haberman
Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff

In memory of Herta Kovacs, mother of Alan Kovacs
Leslie and Larry Popkin
Tammy Smiley and Alan Ederer
Terry and Bob Wolff

YARTZEIT

In observance of the yahrzeit of Florence Goldstein
Wally Buchband

In observance of the yahrzeit of Jesse Bennet
Greenfield
Ellen and Edward Greenfield

In observance of the yarzeitin of Henrietta Adler
and Barney W. Adler
Joan Lehn

In observance of the yahrzeit of Walter Brown
Ellen Brown and Bob Schwartz

In observance of the yahrzeit of Mollie Nystad
Pam Brodlieb

In observance of the yahrzeit of Steven Wolkoff
Sandy Wolkoff

In observance of the yahrzeit of Alfred Stracher
Dorothy Stracher

In observance of the yahrzeit of Mort Helbraun
Marian Schwartz

MAZEL TOV

Mazel tov to Sherry and Richie Black on the
marriage of their son Daniel to Jamie Lee

Mazel tov to all of our graduates. Wishing you much
success in all your future endeavors.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Rob Weinstock on the death
of Leon Weinstock

Condolences to Lisa Sloan on the death of her father,
Robert Moskowitz

Condolences to Kenny Marx, Matthew and Zack
Marx on the death of Irma Marx

Condolences to Gene Grayson and family on the
death of his beloved wife, Marilyn

Condolences to Rick Krainin and family on the death
of his father, Harold L. Krainin

Condolences to Dawn McKay and family on the
death of her father, Jacob Rosenberg

Condolences to Alan Kovacs and family on the death
of his mother, Herta Kovacs

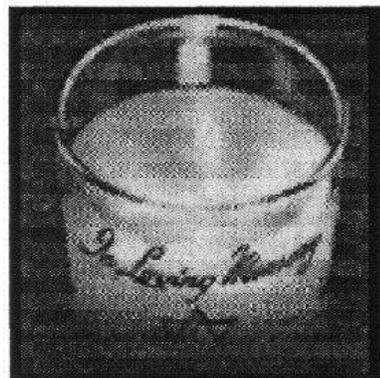
Condolences to Tammy Smiley on the death of her
mother Eleanor Lewit Smiley.

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