

May 2015

Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore A Community Dedicated to Change and Committed to Tradition Iyar/Sivan 5775



Shavuot Services Sunday, May 24, 9:45 a.m.

We will celebrate Shavuot on Sunday morning, May 24th. In the course of that service Mitchell Schwartz will become bar mitzvah. As is the custom of the holiday, *Yizkor* will be included in the service. Come to celebrate this holiday which marks the theophany at Mount Sinai.

RSNS ANNUAL RETREAT



Saturday, MAY 16TH 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the

Science Museum of Long Island 1526 North Plandome Road See page 11 for all the details!

SHABBAT UNPLUGGED A SINGING SERVICE May 29th 8:00 P.M.

Join us for a joyous evening of music and singing with a fantastic band (drums, guitars, strings, sax, etc.) led by our very own Solomon Hoffman!

This Issue

- 2 JCC News
- 3 Rabbi Lee
- 4 5 Youth and Synagogue School News
- 6 Gan Shalom News
- 7-9 Adult Education and Upcoming Programs
- 10 11 Todah
- 12 Important events to remember

SHABBAT B'YAHAD

The B'Yahad program is an ongoing Saturday morning family service and education experience. All members are welcome! Adult Text Study begins at 9:00 a.m. and the community Family Service begins at 10:15 a.m. We will meet on May 9th for our next Shabbat.

GUEST SPEAKER – MAY 1ST FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES -

Join us for Friday night services at 8:00 p.m. and hear Maryann Sinclair Slutsky, Executive WINS Director of Long Island (http://www.longislandwins.com/), talk about immigration issues on Long Island. Long Island nonprofit communications WINS is а organization that focuses on promoting practical immigration solutions that work for everyone. Maryann will speak about the large number of Central American children who have come to Long Island in the last 2 years, and what we can do to help.

One way RSNS is helping: This year's adult b'nai mitzvah class is working with Sister Margaret at The North Fork Spanish Apostolate in Riverhead to raise funds to send some of these children to the 4H camp for a week. For more information, contact Carol Blumenthal or Debbie Kesselman.

JUNE SHALIYAH ISSUE The deadline for the June 2015 issue is May 15th.

To submit content for the JUNE 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

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

Geralyn Lucas Author of Then Came Life

Date: May 18, 2015 Time: 7:30 p.m. Location: Sid Jacobson JCC, 300 Forest Drive, East Hills, NY 11548 Fee: \$5.00 in advance/\$10.00 at the door

Then Came Life is a story of surviving life that will have you in tears from both laughter and sorrow. Geralyn explores the dissonance of facing challenges she was afraid she wouldn't be alive to have, but also confronts them with a great sense of infectious empowerment and a hilarious voice. This is not a cancer recovery story; it is about re-discovering the resilience, courage, and optimism it takes to reinvent yourself at any age.

For more information, contact Randy Hight, LCSW, Coordinator of the Nancy Marx Strength to Strength Cancer Wellness Program, 516-484-1545, ext. 213, rhight@sjjcc.org

Our Warm Line is staffed by your caring, professional social workers. CALL 516.484.1545, ext. 196 Phone calls are always free and confidential.

RABBI LEE

However one looks upon the results of the recent election in Israel, one cannot help remark how wondrous it is that a country in the Middle East held a free and uncontested election. Moreover, while the countries overturned by the revolutions of the Arab Spring struggle – many of them, violently – to find their footings, Israel held but *another* election in March, the last in a series of its soon-to-be sixty-seven year long history. There is no question that Israel is a country with many strong and often opposing voices, voices that even challenge the very nature of Israel's democracy; but with it all, the majority of Israel's citizens, including Arabs and *haredim*, acknowledge the power of the vote within the political realm. That's something to celebrate as we look toward the anniversary of the birth of the modern State of Israel, a miracle in our time.

Lee



Celebrate Rabbi Lee SATURDAY, JUNE 13th 7:30 p.m. at RSNS

Please join us as we celebrate Rabbi Lee's 40th year in the Rabbinate. If you have not yet received your invitation, please contact the office. For those who have received their invitations, we look forward to receiving your response by May 20th.

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. We will meet on May 9th for our next family Shabbat.

PJ LIBRARY

Join us for our last event of the season on Wednesday, May 20th 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. We will be reading PJ Library selections celebrating the holiday, Shavuot. To learn more about the PJ Library go to the following link www.pjlibrary.org

KADIMA

FINAL Kadima class with parents – **Tuesday, May 5th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Dinner and Judaism in Action presentations.

MADRICHIM

Final wrap up meeting: Thursday, May 14th 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

TEENS

Boy's Group – Bros' Hodesh

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday night, May 12th, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Send in your forms today, and join our Facebook group!

http://www.facebook.com/groups/18760912 4592536/ Girl's Rosh Hodesh - 8^{th} -12th grade girls join this special "girls only" group. There is fabulous food and company, while we explore current topics important to girls today. Our next meeting will be on May 26th 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Kesher Hadash -

Stay tuned for our next Kesher Hadash event! Watch your e-mails for all the details.

SERVICE FOR GRADUATES

We will celebrate our graduates at an hour long service on Friday, June 5 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.

If you would like to read an English reading (selected by Rabbi Lee), please contact Sharon in the synagogue office at <u>sharonrsns@optonline.net</u> or call 627-6274.

To contribute goodies for the oneg Shabbat, email Hope Pecullan at <u>Hpecullan@gmail.com</u>

Looking forward to seeing you, Rabbi Lee, Rabbi Jodie, Cantor Eric



FINAL SPECIAL PROGRAM HELD DURING REGULAR CLASS TIME TUESDAY, MAY 19TH - ZIMRIAH

Shabbat Services: Family services are held one Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. There are many different ways for families to participate. We work with each class to enable parents to provide Jewish role models for their children as well as expand their knowledge of Jewish liturgy and texts. You may sign up to help with a Family Service oneg. The *B'yahad* Saturday morning family service and education program will act as reinforcement for our *tefilla* program.

FRIDAY EVENING FAMILY SERVICE PARTICIPATION - 7:30 p.m.

May 15th Shabbat School

SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

It is now time to register for RSNS Synagogue School for the 2015-2016 academic year. <u>Students currently enrolled</u> in Synagogue School in grades kindergarten through vav have received re-registrations forms by mail. **All parents must complete the emergency contact information** on these registration form. Check the accuracy of all pre-printed information and return the completed form to RSNS with a deposit of \$250 per student by **June 1, 2015.**

Families will be billed over the summer for the balance of tuition. As usual tuition will be due in full by September 1. Only those members in good financial standing will be guaranteed a place for their children in the appropriate grade.

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.



The children and teachers came back to school after Passover and immediately began to make plans for celebrating Earth Day and Yom Ha Atzmaut. We used recycled objects in our art projects and created blue and white collages.

As the days are getting warmer and spring is in the air, we are observing the changes all around us. The toddlers are learning about trees and flowers and baby ducks and birds. The tadpoles in the four year olds classrooms are rapidly turning into frogs. Our three year olds are waiting patiently for their caterpillars to arrive so they can watch them turn into butterflies. Our teachers also have observed changes in the children in their classes---they seem to have blossomed and grown like the flowers all around us!

Water is back in the water tables in our classrooms and we are enjoying using the bikes, slides and climbers in our playgrounds again now that we can go outside more often. Lots of planting is taking place in the garden in our Outdoor Classroom. We are making beautiful presents for our Mom's for Mother's Day and we are looking forward to honoring the Torah on Shavuot with flowers and song.

Our annual picnic is Sunday May 17th from 11:00a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and features Yoga Jen.

Our last PJ Library Event for the year - celebrating Shavuot - Wednesday, May 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Save the date: Our 4's Moving Up Ceremony takes place on Friday June 19th at 9:15 a.m.

Registration continues for the fall and our fun filled seven week summer program.

For 7 weeks this summer, your child can have a wonderful experience at Gan Shalom. Our summer program begins June 29th and ends August 14th. This summer we will offer a four day or 5 day a week program. The three year olds will meet from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and the four year olds will meet from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and the four year olds will meet from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The fours will bring a dairy lunch from home daily. A daily ½ hour lunch extension is available for 3 year olds. Children will have the opportunity to play indoors in an air-conditioned classroom, and outdoors where **sprinklers** and a **water slide** will be available. Special activities are planned for each week of the program. Stop by the nursery school office for an application.

Toddler Programming

We are delighted to offer two types of programming for our toddlers this summer. Our Summer Program begins on Monday June 29 and ends on Friday August 14, 2015.

Our seven week Come Play With Me is a non-separating class for children turning two by December 1, 2015 with their parent or caregiver. We will be offering this class on Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Tuition will be \$225 for synagogue members and \$250 for non-members.

Our seven week Summer Twos class is a separating class for children who will be two by December 1, 2015. This class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuition is \$600 for synagogue members and \$650 for non-members.

Come play, paint, paste, sing and share snack with us this summer!! No bottles or pacifiers for these classes, please. All classes will meet in an air conditioned room and include water play in the playground.

ADULT STUDIES & SEMINARS

EAT, READ, TALK

Rabbi Lee will hold the next of his Thursday afternoon programs in the series at **12:30 p.m. on May 7th.** He will again, 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.

Rabbi Jodie Siff will hold the next of her Thursday afternoon programs on **Thursday**, **May 21st from 12:30-2:00 p.m.** The focus will be the study of Mishnah, the next sacred text written after the Hebrew Bible. You need no previous knowledge to attend her "lunch and learn." Feel free to bring a dairy lunch and we'll supply the hot drinks and the article to be discussed.

CANTOR'S DINNER

Friday, May 1st 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Join Cantor Eric for a wonderful discussion and dinner as we explore the topic of the year "Jewish views of the afterlife." \$18 for dinner, or come for FREE just for the discussion at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Cantor Eric (rsnscantor@gmail.com) (whether you're coming to the dinner OR just the discussion!) by Monday, April 27th. AND WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND

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 socalled Minor Prophets, minor not in importance, but in the amount of material that has survived of theirs. We will pick up the reading with the Book of Habbakuk and will move on to Psalms in the course of the year. This seminar meets biweekly on Thursday nights, 8-9:30 p.m. **This month's meeting is May 14th.**

SHABBAT SEMINAR

The History of Israel: A Documentary Approach: We began our examination of Zionism six years ago through the lens of the of Zionist and anti-Zionist writings ideologues. Last year we arrived at the founding of the modern State and reached beyond to the Six Day War. We will continue to critically review the development of the State through political and sociological original documents. This seminar meets biweekly on Shabbat afternoons from noon to 1:30 p.m. This month's meetings are May 2nd and 23rd

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 All women of our congregation are loss. welcome to join us as we continue to study, and learn from each other. Our next study meeting is May 13th.

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 516-466-2519.

SAVE THE DATE Saturday, JUNE 20TH 9:45 a.m. Communal adult b'nai mitzvah service and celebration. All are invited!

ADULT EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMING Continued ...

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 next meeting is **on Wednesday**, **May 13th at 7:30 p.m.** Coffee and some snacks will be available.

The topic for discussion will be:

There are times when during a dream or light sleep people will come up with the solution to a problem or resolve an issue that had been perplexing them. Has that ever happened to you? Describe?

M'YAD L'YAD

M'Yad L'Yad meaning "from hand to hand" provides support to those in need in our local communities in an anonymous and dignified manner. Needy recipients are matched with volunteer sponsors who provide material and social support. Sponsors are asked to provide four packages a year for "their" family. Packages may include new or used items as well as gift cards. Included in the package there usually is a note written by the sponsor to the recipient using only first names. Frequently the recipient replies, through MYLY, and is so grateful not only for the gifts but to know that someone who doesn't even know them cares. Last year Cantor Eric's 7th graders sponsored a family and will continue to do so this year. If you are interested in sponsoring a family or learning more about M'Yad L'Yad vou can call 516-482-0704 to speak to Roseann Michelson or go to: hands@myadlyad.org. To call the organization directly, please call 631-486-6636.

CONGREGATIONAL INVITATION TO AN AUFRUF – May 1st

It gives me great pleasure to invite the entire congregation to the aufruf of my daughter, Hillary and her intended, Julie, on their forthcoming marriage.

Please join us on Friday, May 1st at 8 p.m. for this celebration and the oneg following the service.

Rachel Hecht

Rabbinic Mentorship Program

Georgette Kennebrae, our rabbinic intern, is visiting our congregation five times within the program year for a mentoring experience.

We would love to have members of the congregation host Georgette for a meal in their home. Her next visit will be from June $5^{th} - 6^{th}$. Please contact the office if you can help welcome her into our community.

SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 6^{TH}

Please join us on Saturday, June 6th from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. for a special class taught by our own Rabbinic intern, Georgette. Details to follow.

ADULT EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMING Continued ...



So many RSNS members are involved with the arts. It's time to continue our ongoing art shows in the Social Hall. When the art works are for sale, 25% of the sale is a tax deductible contribution to the synagogue.

We schedule a few months in advance of a show and can accommodate paintings, photographs and another media that can be mounted on walls. Artists can be members, family and friends of members and/or those whose works contain Jewish themes. No nudes as we want all ages to be comfortable.

To chat about a show call or email Dave Eckert at 516-456-1507 or email <u>davepage@optonline.net</u> or Emily Klass at 516-484-9154 or email <u>wepkaplan@gmail.com</u>

DONATE OR MAKE A PAYMENT ON OUR WEBSITE

There is an easy and convenient way for you to give a donation to RSNS or to pay your dues. Visit our website at <u>RSNS.org</u> and use the "DONATE" link near the top of the right side of the home page. All credit cards are accepted.

Complete all information and then click review your donation. On the next page click "Special Instructions to Seller" to indicate the purpose of your donation or payment. Call the office if you have any questions, 516-627-7274

USING GOODSEARCH FOR YOUR ONLINE SERCHES 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:

<u>GoodSearch.com</u> - 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!

<u>GoodShop.com</u>- 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.

<u>GoodDining.com</u> - 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.

We have been advised that it is important to have and use up-to-date anti-virus software before using GoodSearch.

Todah... RSNS' Way of Saying Thanks

In honor of Scott Feiner's Senior Recital and Graduation from Julliard Judith and John Miodownik

In honor of Sally and Jonah Hirschwerk becoming B'nai Mitzvah Lisa Rafofsky and Rick Krainin

In honor of the Adult B'nai Mitzvah June and Alvin Pitkow

In honor of Carol Blumenthal becoming a Bat Mitzvah Sue and Charlie Hava Dinah and Marc Kramer Ilse Sander

In honor of Tom Hicks becoming a Bar Mitzvah Zari and Ira Ginsburg Audrey and Andy Feiner

In honor of Sara Schulmiller becoming a Bat Mitzvah Zari and Ira Ginsburg

In honor of Jane Buford becoming a Bat Mitzvah Dinah and Marc Kramer

In honor of Marian Schwartz becoming a Bat Mitzvah Dinah and Marc Kramer

In honor of Tina Pomeranz becoming a Bat Mitzvah Audrey and Andy Feiner

In honor of Debbie Kesselman becoming a Bat Mitzvah Audrey and Andy Feiner

In honor of Charlene Berkman and Rich Brody becoming grandparents Audrey and Andy Feiner

In honor of John Miodownik's special birthday Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff Joan and Marty Adickman

To Jack and Marty Budow on the occasion of their grandchild becoming a bar mitzvah Jerry and Anita Bloom To Sheri and Michael Lindner on the birth of their granddaughter, Yael Isabel, born to Joanna and Dave Pradela Ilse Sander Michele and Michael Weiden Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff Jerry and Anita Bloom

In honor of the birth of Rayna and Mark Collin's grandchild, Jordan Elias, born to Monica and Jaime Collin Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff

In honor of the marriage of Robyn Schechter and Matthew Sendach Audrey and Andy Feiner

In memory of Irma Hill, mother of Carol Stern Michele and Michael Weiden

In memory of George Blum Renee and Leon Kaplan Lilly Cohen Audrey and Andy Feiner Florence Marcus Barry Silberzweig and Barrie Rosen Terry and Bob Wolff Joy Benjamin

In memory of Mark Sisane, brother-in-law of Carrie and Sandy Siff Audrey and Andy Feiner

In memory of Eva Oppenheim, sister of John Miodownik Audrey and Andy Feiner Judy and Al Bieber

In memory of Norbert Haber Michele and Michael Weiden Terry and Bob Wolff Marlene and Ken Ruskin Judy Stern Viviane and Alan Kovacs Joy Benjamin Cindy Schechter and Les Shafranak Judy and John Miodownik Audrey and Andy Feiner Jerry and Anita Bloom

Todah **RSNS' Way of Saying Thanks** Continued...

In memory of Gloria Manspeizer, aunt of Wendy Paisner Wendy & Jonathan Paisner

In memory of Netta Rosenblatt Avedon, sister of Daryl Rosenblatt Audrey and Andy Feiner

MAZAL TOV

Mazel Tov to Rayna and Mark Collin on the birth of their grandson, Jordan Elias, son of Monica and Jaime Collin.

Mazel Tov to Karen and David Eckert on the birth of their granddaughter Eva Brielle, daughter of Sari Eckert

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

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Diane Acker Haber on the death of her husband, Norbert Haber

YARTZEIT

In observance of the **yarzeitin** of her parents Bella and Sol Rafofsky Lisa Rafofsky

In observance of the yarzeit of her father, Phillip Kolodny Zari and Ira Ginsburg

In observance of the yarzeit of Anne Newiger Marian Schwartz

In observance of the yarzeit of her mother, Dolly Goldstein Wally Buchband

In observance of the yarzeit of Laura Adler, late wife of Ed Adler Anne Kropf Wolf

In observance of the yarzeit of Fischel Weiden Michael Weiden

COMMUNITY

RENEW

LEARNING CONNECT

CONGREGATIONAL

RETREAT



Saturday, May 16, 2015 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

at the Science Museum of Long Island 1526 North Plandome Road



\$18 per person ~ maximum per family \$50 Lunch included

JOIN US FOR INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING, EXPLORING, BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING MEMBER TO MEMBER CONNECTIONS

We need your RSVP and check by May 4.

····· ×·····

Names of all participants: _____

Enclosed is our check payable to RSNS in the amount of: _____

\$18 per person or maximum of \$50 per family

..... Please join us as we celebrate ear IN THE RABBINATE Saturday, June 13, 2015 7:30 pm at RSNS cocktails, dinner, dessert and more \$80 per person 404 ee d IN THE RABBINATE Please Reply by May 20, 2015 Name(s) ____ people attending @ \$80 per person Thonsor a Decade PLEASE HELP US UNDERWRITE THE COSTS OF THE CELEBRATION. NOTE, ANY CONTRIBUTION OF \$1,000 OR MORE WILL INCLUDE 2 FREE TICKETS TO THE EVENT. 40 years \$2,500 30 years\$1,800 20 years \$1,000 0 10 years..... \$ 500 Other additional contribution \$ Sorry I (we) cannot attend but we would like to contribute to the event Total Amount enclosed ¢



FIRE • SMOKE • WATER • MOLD

Restoration

Remediation

Repair

Fire, Smoke & Soot Damage Restoration Water Removal & Structural Drying Mold Mitigation & Remediation **Emergency Board-Up & Protection Building Repairs & Reconstruction Contents Cleaning & Restoration** HVAC Air Duct Cleaning **Document Drying & Reprocessing** Contents Pack-Outs, Moving & Storage **Computer & Electronics Restoration** Fine Arts & Antiques Restoration **Demolition & Debris Removal** Green Clean[™] Restoration **Emergency Response Planning** Expert Loss Consulting 24/7 Emergency Response



800.3MAXONS • MAXONS.COM

RIVERSIDE-Nassau North Chapels

55 North Station Plaza Great Neck, New York 11021 (516) 487-9600

PRE-NEED COUNSELING AVAILABLE

DAVID M. RUBIN



For Generations A Symbol Of Jewish Tradition

Continuing to maintain the high service standards of the Rosenthal, Grossberg and Alpert families.

Riverside Memorial Chapel is a participating member firm of The PRE Plan,™ an FDIC insured fund for pre-paid funeral arrangements.







Gutterman's B&W Jornal Ad - 7.5 x 5 - 3/17/11